

RDY STREET, MANCHESTER 8

Sheriff attacks company over diving bell deaths

From Ronald Faux, Aberdeen

A diving company and its controlling shareholder were strongly criticised in a judgment issued yesterday after a fatal accident inquiry into the deaths of two American divers who became trapped in a crippled bell in the North Sea.

In his judgment Sheriff Douglas Risk accused the company, Infabco, of being more concerned with speed than safety, and Mr Brian Masterson, director and controlling shareholder, of giving evidence as false as to be laughable if it had not been a fatal accident inquiry.

The accident happened in August, 1979, at the British National Oil Corporation's Thistle A platform, off Shetland. Sheriff Risk said that the company had been negligent in its failure to ensure the safety of the divers and the rescue of the bell.

stranded bell, which had become separated from the support ship, Wildrake. At a trial in Aberdeen last December Infabco was cleared of four charges of breaking diving regulations. After the Crown had failed to prove they were the employers of the two men.

Yesterday Sheriff Risk found that Infabco had operational control of the divers at the time and were the contractors.

He stated that he did not suspect any witness at the fatal accident inquiry of deliberately trying to mislead the court, with the one exception of Mr Masterson. Describing the arrangements involving Infabco, Offshore Coordinators Ltd and various divers, Mr Masterson had given evidence that "so obviously false that if a fatal accident inquiry were not a serious process it would have been laughable", the Sheriff said.

Mr Masterson was criticised for ordering the crane man on the Wildrake to "slew" the crane when the wire became snagged during the first attempt to lift the bell.

Sheriff Risk commented: "It seems to me that in instructing the crane to be slewed and the lift to resume without first investigating the cause of the obstruction, Mr Masterson committed a grave error."

Mr Masterson had said that such a check had been carried out by the Stena Welder, a

ship, which supported the rescue, but Sheriff Risk did not believe him. The lift continued and when the sling reached the surface there was no bell at the end of the wire.

Divers from the Stena Welder worked all afternoon but did not find the bell until about 5 pm, by which time, the judgment said the men inside were probably beyond saving.

The judgment pointed out that a guide wire and chain weight system, which would have provided an alternative means of recovering the bell and an important safety factor, was not used. Sheriff Risk found that the decision to carry on diving without it rested with the contractors and was a serious error.

"It cannot be said with certainty that this contributed to the deaths, but it does suggest that the diving contractors were more concerned with speed than with safety in that they were prepared to run a known risk for which there was a known remedy rather than wait until the remedy (the under-frame) was available."

Infabco said in Aberdeen yesterday that the company regretted the sheriff's opinion that certain of the evidence suggested that the company was more concerned with speed than safety. Infabco had always followed a policy which placed the safety of its divers at paramount importance. That policy remained.

Legality doubts threaten GLC's 10,000 jobs plan

By David Walker

The London Labour Party's manifesto promise to create up to 10,000 new jobs each year in the capital by means of a municipal enterprise board is in jeopardy.

Detailed plans revealed yesterday show the scheme to be hedged about with restrictions on size and scope, and overshadowed by doubts about its legality.

It is possible the Greater London Council will appoint a £25,000-a-year chief executive for its board and find that instead of £100m a year he has little or nothing to spend.

The industry and employment committee will consider next month the formation of a Greater London enterprise board not knowing whether the council is legally empowered to take on this new economic function.

Conservative members of the GLC are taking counsel's advice, but even if the scheme

is legal the board's financing will be difficult.

By law the GLC has to promote a parliamentary Bill for its capital enterprise board. The Government must approve. Conservatives plan to ask Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, to permit only £4m rather than the £44m sought by Labour.

Labour's original plan was for a regional version of the National Enterprise Board, financed by the GLC, buying and developing land for industrial use, subsidizing companies and promoting cooperatives.

The present plan presents the enterprise board as a private company, partly dependent on finance raised in the market.

Mr Michael Mann, QC, told the council it had no "expressed power to form or invest in a company".

QC on how lovers fell out

Pamela Collinson was anxious to install herself in her lover's home after the death of his wife, counsel for the prosecution said at Teesside Crown Court yesterday.

Miss Collinson, aged 34, of New Barnet, Hertfordshire, and Paul Vickers, aged 47, a surgeon and her former lover, of Gosforth, Newcastle, have denied murdering Mrs Margaret Vickers. The court has heard that Mrs Vickers died after being given the anti-cancer drug CCNU.

In his final speech Mr Harry Ognall, QC, for the Crown, referred to the "disillusionment and falling out" of the two lovers.

He pointed to the draft letter written by Miss Collinson and addressed to Mr Vickers which he said was not sent but found in her home. It referred to her behaving "like a bull in a china shop" and being "too eager to effect sweeping changes".

Mr Ognall told the jury: "Looking at the letter about being 'a bull in a china shop', you may think that once Mrs Vickers had died she (Miss Collinson) was desperately anxious to install herself in that home as quickly as possible."

Mr Ognall said the jury could confidently reject the blackmail and clinical trials assertions. "If you do, I invite you to consider what I describe as the inherent common sense of the situation," he added. "If Mr Vickers was not being blackmailed, we submit, then he is a murderer. If he is, why does he recruit Pamela Collinson to the scheme?"

The trial continues on Monday.

Baby 'needed padding'

From Our Correspondent, Norwich

Mrs Christina Caesar, the Cambridge mother accused of killing her 19-month-old son, told a social worker shortly before the infant died from hypothermia that "she" of putting him in a padded suit and crash helmet, she could not stop him bruising himself, it was stated at Norwich Crown Court yesterday.

Richard Davis, a senior social worker, told a jury that he thought Mrs Caesar and her lover, Andrew Clark, were coping well with the boy, Jason, when he visited the family six weeks before the child's death.

Mrs Caesar, aged 25, and

Mr Clark, aged 24, of Darwin Drive, Cambridge, have both pleaded not guilty to manslaughter and wilful neglect.

Mr Clark was said to have told the police: "I loved that boy and treated him like my own son. He was a clumsy child and at times he has been covered with bruises."

The court has been told that the boy was left in a freezing bedroom for 16 hours on Guy Fawkes night last year, the day after a fourth case conference, when social and health workers decided not to remove him from his mother's custody. The hearing continues on Monday.

PARLIAMENT November 13 1981

Putting jobless into business

SMALL FIRMS

The Manpower Services Commission is to pay an enterprise allowance for a year to unemployed people who want to set up a business. The scheme was launched on an experimental basis in three areas: Coventry, the Midway Towns and North-east Lancashire. Mr John MacGregor, Under Secretary of State for Industry, announced in the Commons.

Speaking in a debate on Government measures to help small businesses Mr MacGregor said that the scheme was aimed at those who were deterred from setting up in business by the prospect of losing unemployment benefit.

He also said that since 1975 some 70 measures of direct financial benefit to help small businesses had been introduced, designed to change the environment in which the firms operated, to remove barriers to their progress and to give positive incentives. They were not just aimed at start-ups.

His department believed that many unemployed people might want to set up their own business but found it difficult to do so because of their resources would be taken up by the venture leaving them little to live on in the early stages.

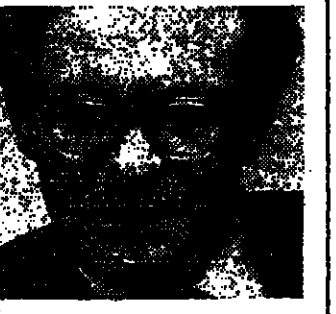
There was also the problem that by starting up a business such people would lose their entitlement to benefits. The difficulties were proving real and psychological problems to those contemplating the step.

There had been lengthy examination into the many practical difficulties that arose and it was unlikely there would be any changes in Social Security regulations.

The Manpower Services Commission had agreed to set up a pilot scheme to give enterprise allowances for up to one year for unemployed people who want to set up in business. This would be operated in conjunction with the small firms service.

Details of the scheme would be announced shortly and he expected that it would start in the New Year. There would be a detailed announcement shortly by the Secretary of State for Employment.

Ten new banks and institutions had been introduced into the loan guarantee scheme although they had not yet entered into agreement with the Government. This would widen the mix and increase competition between banks and institutions which could only be to the benefit of applicants.



MacGregor: Experiment in three areas

Mr John MacGregor, an Opposition spokesman on industry (Norwich, South, Lab) said the Government's monetarist fetish was bankrupting small firms daily. It was little short of fraudulent to try to talk up a small business boom. Giving minor concessions to these businesses in the present climate was like attending to the woodwork when the house was on fire.

More direct state aid for small businesses was needed. So was more encouragement and direct assistance for the cooperative movement. Though hopeful changes were beginning in the banking system, British banks were still not sufficiently attuned to the needs of smaller new businesses.

Mr Anthony Grant (Harrow, Central, C) said more thought should be given, however, to small and medium-sized enterprises all the problems of transition. They could not go the market like a public company, for instance.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Birmingham, East, Lib) said that whatever technical schemes might be introduced in the department, unless there was a change of Treasury policy, they would not see the loan guarantee scheme pick up and play a useful part in promoting small business.

There was a case for further reducing corporation tax on the first £25,000 of profits, and certainly for raising the VAT threshold, and reducing national insurance surcharges, particularly for small businesses.

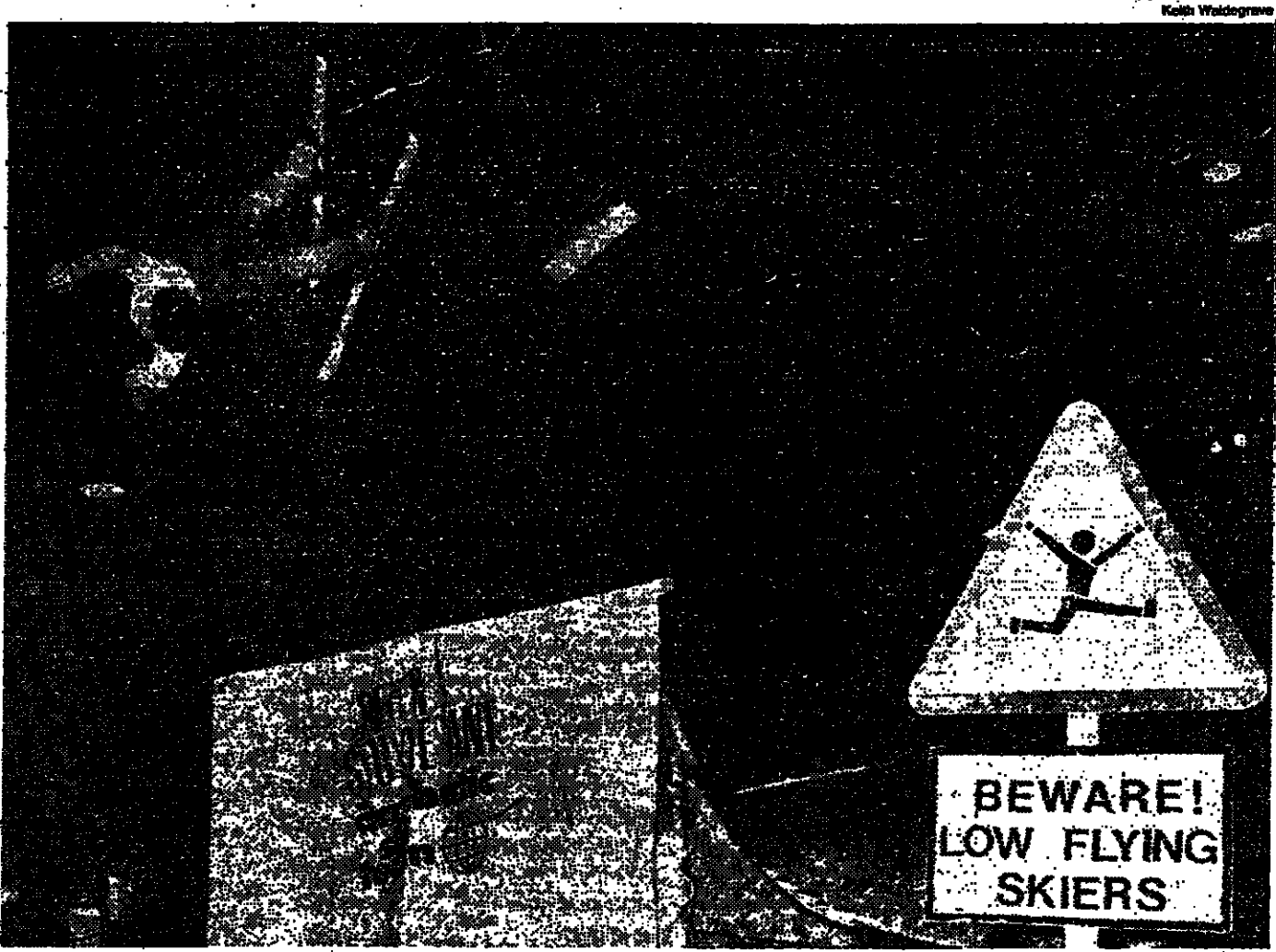
Mr John Bowne (Winchester, C) said that much more emphasis should be put on training young people in all schools in elementary accounting which was the essence of business.

Mr George Mackenzie (Rutherford, Lab) said he had been troubled by the number of advertisements in the newspapers in recent times trying to encourage people to start up small businesses. Some firms now employed people on a self-employed basis as agents. It was a way of counting a great deal of redundancy money out of poor individuals.

Mr MacGregor said there were difficulties in this area. That was why he was proceeding with pilot schemes on a limited scale so that monitoring could be properly carried out.

Mr Michael Grylls (North-West, Surrey, C) said that if firms were to grow they must leave more money to those firms by reducing the corporate tax rate. The Government should consider strengthening and enhancing the department's small business division.

Miss Janet Fookes (Plymouth, Drake, C) said many small firms were still having difficulty in raising finance because of practicality on the part of local bank branch managers to cooperate.



The sign says it all: Craig Clow, of the Peter Stuyvesant Acrobatic Ski Team, practising his act at the International Ski Show, which opens at Earls Court, London, today.

Bells of St Mary's ring on

From Our Correspondent, Oxford

Mr Colin Thomson, landlord of the Red Lion public house in Twyford, Buckinghamshire, yesterday failed to obtain an injunction silencing the clock of St Mary's Church in the village between 11 pm and 8 am. The clock bell strikes every quarter of an hour.

Mr Thomson's claim for damages up to £1000 against the parish council, the rector and the church wardens was also dismissed. Costs of £100 were awarded against him.

The case was heard in a special county court sitting in the village hall. Judge Fearn said he had been to the

church to listen to the bell. "I found the bells were both mellow and attractive," he said.

He said Mr Thomson had suffered for a long time from nervous disorders that caused him insomnia, regardless of the bells.

The Rev Andrew De Pury, Rector of Swan, within whose parish St Mary's falls, said: "The case has brought many costs to the village, financial costs and the costs in terms of damage to relationships within the community. The future must lie in trying to heal the divisions this case has caused."

Council answers coroner

By Tony Samstag

Criticisms by Dr Harold Price, the coroner who conducted the inquest last month into the death of Mr Winston Rose, of the role of social workers in that case have been answered by the social services committee of the London Borough of Waltham Forest.

Mr Rose, who was mentally ill, died on his way to hospital on July 13 after a struggle involving 12 policemen in his garden at Elm Road, Leytonstone. He was aged 27.

The coroner's jury returned a majority verdict of unlawful killing and Dr Price, in his summing up, recom-

mended that the "woefully inadequate" training of social workers involved should be improved.

In a report to the social services committee, presented on Thursday night, Mr Harold Hurley, director of social services, was in turn critical of those recommendations. The committee accepted his report unanimously.

Mr Hurley described the coroner's comments on training as "rather surprising". Almost all social workers held a recognized social work qualification, which was often acquired after five years of

Sponsored coronation foreseen by Benn

By Kenneth Gosling

A vision of a future television service in which even a coronation might have a commercial sponsor was outlined last night by Mr Wedgwood Benn when he returned on the BBC 2 Newsweek programme, to his allegation that capitalism obscures the media, especially television, and that ordinary people rarely get a chance to express themselves.

Taking part in a programme called "Does television tell the truth?" Mr Benn said access might become easier with new technology.

"But then you could have 25 channels all controlled by commercial interests. After all, we accept now that sports are financed by advertising; maybe political discussions will be, and maybe the next coronation will be financed by Benson and Hedges."

"So, as the crown drops on Charles III's head, low-tar cigarettes come up behind the screen in Westminster Abbey."

In a particularly bitter criticism of the television coverage of the BL dispute, Mr Benn said any simple statistical presentation would show that, far from being greedy, the BL workers were being told on pain of dismissal that their wages were to be cut.

In politics, Mr Benn said, the BBC saw the situation from what it called the centre. "That is, it tries to play the part of God."

Mr Richard Francis, BBC director of news and current affairs, said that it was true that there was a bias in any national institution such as the BBC towards consensus and tolerance. He had doubts about the possibility of achieving the aim of perfect balance.

New statistics disclosed by last night's programme indicated that over a 20-year period people felt that coverage of news and current affairs was becoming more biased.

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The Labour scandal that slipped through the net

At an ill-attended meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party a couple of weeks ago a new set of standing orders was slipped through containing an outrageous provision which must be reversed. It was that the PLP should accept as its leader and deputy leader the people voted into those positions for the party as a whole by the electoral college as constituted by Conference. There are serious reasons affecting the whole of society, why this is unacceptable.

But, first, an internal Labour Party point. The powers of Conference are not unlimited. It cannot decide who is to lead even its own constituent bodies — it cannot decide who is to be leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, or who is to be chairman of a Constituency Labour Party. It is a fundamental principle of an organisation like the Labour movement that the various bodies that go to make it up should run their own internal affairs and elect their own officers. There are stronger, not weaker, reasons that this should apply to the PLP than to any other section: MPs are the only office-holders in the movement who have been elected to their positions by a franchise of the entire adult population of the areas they represent.

Second, if Labour wins another general election the leader of the PLP will automatically become Prime Minister of Great Britain. It is this that makes the new standing order of concern to everyone. I do not think the nation will for very long put up with its Prime Minister being chosen by the farcical and patently dishonest procedures which it saw at work on its television screens last September. People are still talking about how the executive of the IGWU asked its members which of the three candidates they preferred and then cast its 1½ million votes for the other two. This and all those other shenanigans are not forgotten. People are also reading daily in their newspapers about



Bryan Magee explains why a new standing order passed recently by the Parliamentary Labour Party is unconstitutional and should be reversed

how the supporters of the losing candidate on that occasion are at this very moment trying to force those who voted for the winner out of public life. Is all this going to accompany and follow the future choice of a Prime Minister?

These goings-on were and are scandalous, a disgrace to the movement, and would instantly become a national disgrace if adopted as the way the nation's leader was chosen.

However, powerful as these objections are, what makes the new standing order literally unacceptable is that it is incompatible with the country's constitution. This provides that after a general election the monarch should send for whichever MP commands the widest support in the House of Commons, and invite him or her to form a Government. It could happen, of course, that after a Labour victory the MP with the most support in the House would be the one already chosen by Conference as the leader of the party in

the country, but there is no way of guaranteeing that in advance. It is at least as easy to imagine Conference electing a leader whom the majority of his parliamentary colleagues could not in honest conscience follow.

Tony Benn is a self-evident example. The only people who can say who has the MP's confidence are the MPs themselves. Others can say whom they would like the MP to support, but only the MPs themselves can say whom they do support. And it is the person with their actual support that the monarch is required to call on to form a Government.

The members of the PLP themselves cannot change this — cannot change the constitution of the country any more than the Labour Party Conference can. So the new standing order is invalid. It may have gone through on a vote, but the PLP has neither the right nor the power to hand over to some other body outside Parliament the choosing of the person whom the monarch has to call on to form a government. If it could, it would be undermining the whole basis of our parliamentary system. If the offending standing order is not withdrawn or amended, as it certainly should be, it will have to be ignored after the next Labour victory as being unconstitutional.

Activists who see the truth of this quite clearly when it applies to another party can be curiously blind to it when it applies to their own. Every Labour enthusiast sees that the Conservative Party Conference cannot, by passing any number of resolutions it likes, change the constitution of Great Britain, or take away the rights of MPs. Anything that looked like an attempt on its part to do so would meet with the derision of Labour supporters. Yet they may ferociously assert the right of their Party Conference to do such things — and in all sincerity assert it in the name of democracy!

The author is Labour MP for Leyton.

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Those brainy Butler girls

Tomorrow afternoon at a private party in a house in North Oxford Dr David Butler will forsake his public role as psephologist extraordinary and display more domestic talents as a declaimer of parlour poetry. To the accompaniment of his son's guitar he will recite *The Owl and the Pussycat* as a one hundredth birthday present for his aunt Ruth.

Ruth Butler is the senior member of one of the most remarkable families in the land, which in the past three generations has produced 12 Fellows of Oxfbridge colleges. The Butlers are one of the foremost dynasties making up what Lord Annan once called the British intellectual aristocracy.

Ruth's own immediate relations include a bevy of eminent Victorians. One of her great aunts was Maria Edgeworth, the novelist, and Josephine Butler, the women's rights campaigner, baptised by George Gordon, the economist and inventor of the indifference curve, A. S. Butler, professor of natural philosophy at St Andrew's, J. R. M. Butler, Regius Professor of Modern History at Cambridge, and Francis Galton, the anthropologist, whose first book had the appropriate title, *Hereditary Genius*.

Next week in The Times Caroline Moorehead asks a group of centenarians how they have reached their grand old age.



The Butler daughters (top) — Violet, Ruth and Olive in 1895. Lewis Carroll took them all out. Ruth (above) at a garden-party at St Anne's College 84 years later.

The Butlers are distinguished for their longevity as much as their formidable intellectual capabilities. Ruth's grandfather, the Rev George Butler, who was headmaster of Harrow and dean of Peterborough, was born in 1774 and died in 1853. Her father, Arthur, who was the first headmaster of Harebury and a Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, for 53 years was born the year before the Great Reform Act.

Ruth was one of four children, three of whom went on to have distinguished academic careers. Her brother, Harold, became professor of Latin at University College London, and her younger sister, Violet, was like Ruth a Fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford. The eldest sister, Olive, became warden of the Lady Margaret Hall Settlement in Lambeth.

The three sisters, who never married, spent much of their lives together in the large house in Northam Gardens, where they had been brought up. Visitors remember it as one of the last surviving examples of the typical Victorian academic home, with piles of books everywhere and an imposing bust of Mr Gladstone in the hall. Ruth and Violet still live together in an old people's home less than a mile away from the house.

The three girls were all taken out by Lewis Carroll who had been at Rugby with their father. Olive was his particular favourite but the Butler parents were opposed to one of the girls being singled out for special treatment and his visits ended abruptly after they had made clear that he could not take part alone.

After being educated at home, Ruth joined the Oxford Society of Home Students which had been set up in 1878

to bring together those female students at the university who preferred living in private homes to communal life in college or hall. A few months after graduation with a First in history, she was back at the Society of Home Students as unpaid secretary to the Principal. So began a 35-year connexion with the institution which was to become St Anne's College.

Both Ruth and Violet Butler taught their students from home, since St Anne's did not have rooms until 1952. Ruth is remembered by her pupils as a medieval historian in the grand tradition of Stubbs and Vinogradoff. In 1938 she became senior tutor and dean of degrees. She herself claims to have been the last Oxford dean to use the old Anglican Latin pronunciation when presenting candidates for degrees.

Although she was devoted to the Society of Home Students and opposed it becoming a college, Ruth Butler's interests have not been confined to academic matters. For 50 years she was a scoutmistress in the Cotswold village of Birdlip, which she reached from Oxford on a motorcycle. She still enjoys excursions in her electric wheelchair.

She also shares the strong Christian social conscience which so many of the Butlers have exhibited. Recently she gave some money to the University Church of St Mary's, where she had been baptised by George Gordon Lang, for work with students. When she was told that it was being used to set up a coffee club, she considered for a while and then said: "You know, I think somebody ought to write a thesis on the spiritual influence of Nescafé." It is a nice illustration of the combination of intellectual and human considerations which have influenced her long life.

Ian Bradley

A quest and a holy rumpus

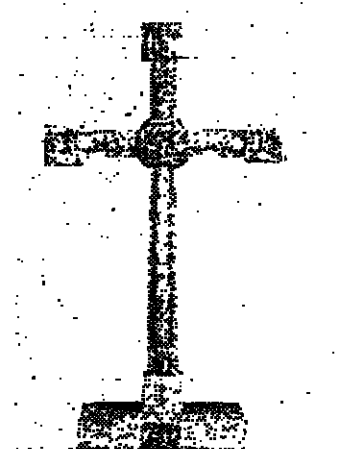
A book to be published by Hamish Hamilton on November 26, *King of the Confessors*, is bound to stir up rancorous controversy in the normally peaceful ranks of experts on medieval ivory carvings. It is a highly coloured account by Thomas Hoving, formerly director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, of his monomaniac quest for an elaborately worked ivory crucifix.

The book has already appeared in the United States, where it has been widely savaged by the critics. *People* magazine, which says the book "reads like a sequel to *Raiders of the Lost Ark*", (a sensational movie) reports: "Even before it hit the bookshelves, it hit the

Confessors was being greeted with outrage and scorn from the art establishment, which charges that Hoving, whose facts make his narrative more exciting. "The only thing you can believe for sure," quipped William Wixom, chairman of the Medieval Department of the Cloisters (the medieval department of the Metropolitan) "is that Tom has no difficulty in lying."

Hoving, who is now editor of *The Connoisseur* magazine, first heard of the carved cross in 1960, when he was a young curatorial assistant in The Cloisters. The man who first aroused his interest in it was Richard H. Randall, Jr., who had also been a curator at the Cloisters.

There is only one cross on the world art market you should be concerned about," Randall told him. He proceeded to give a tantalizing description of an ivory cross, about 12 inches tall, "completely covered with dozens of carved figures



Is this the Bury St Edmunds cross?

He added that it was carved in walrus ivory and that the owner was convinced it was Anglo-Saxon, around 1050. The cross had never been "published" in a scholarly journal or book. Where was it now, Hoving asked. "Underground," "What?" "Sure. It's in a vault deep in a bank in Zurich." And who was the owner? "A most interesting character. A Yugoslav by birth, Austrian by citizenship, lives in Tangier and keeps most of his fantastic collection in this walk-in bank vault in Zurich. I have been told that he is a wealthy arms dealer." His name was Ante Topic Mimara Matutin. He was willing to sell the cross — for \$2 million.

Topic was known to have offered many obvious fakes for sale to museums throughout the world. The cross, which Topic claimed had been made by a craftsman in the tenth century, did not bear the traditional inscription "Jesus of Nazareth King of the Jews" but "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Confessors." Hoving acted on the hunch that such an unusual inscription could not be a forgery. Brushing aside the cautious objections of his colleagues, he began his Holy Grail-like quest for Topic's ivory cross.

His account of the chase through the clandestine world of international art dealing, of walrus-tooth-and-nail competition with other museum men, of what he believes to be a work of incomparable importance and value, is written with the suspense and panache of a spy thriller. And eventually he was successful. The Met bought the cross for \$500,000. Then began the work of authentication and scholarly delving. Hoving became increasingly certain that the cross had been made by Master Hugo, a virtuoso of ivory carving, at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, about 1155.

It is Hoving's conclusions about the cross, rather than the cloak-and-dagger manoeuvres of his acquiring it, that will excite most scholars. The most authoritative of them, Mr John Beckwith, until 1979 keeper of the Department of Architecture and Sculpture at the Victoria and Albert Museum, and author of *Ivory Carvings in Early Medieval England* (1972), told me yesterday: "I think the cross is English, certainly, but I believe Tom Hoving wants it to be much earlier, but I don't think he is right." There is even some doubt, still, about the authenticity of the cross. "One very important expert, whom I would prefer not to name, thought it was a fake," said Mr Beckwith.

Bevis Hillier

Where you can find our best writers

(Look at the facing page)

It is a source of grief as well as gratification to us, professional hacks who write *The Times* for pay that the best bit in the paper, day in day out, is the bit written for free by amateurs, our readers. As a journalist writing for *The Times* one forgets at one's peril that on any subject under the sun or beyond the moon an alarming proportion of one's readers will be better-informed, wiser, and wittier than oneself.

Some years ago we engaged a famous firm of management consultants to do a survey of our organ and its procedures. They carried out a market survey among a carefully selected sample of *Times* readers to discover which parts of the paper they read. It is an office legend that one section of the paper (wild Shetland ponies will not drag which one out of me) attracted a net return, with no reader admitting ever to have looked at it. But it is true that one reader indicated on his questionnaire that he never read any of the paper. Presumably he bought it to carry under his arm as insignia, a sort of Field Marshal's baton for Top People.

Anyway, as any fool could have told them, the survey showed that the bit of the paper that most readers turn to first is Letters. We ignored their other findings too. The ingenious and eclectic Kenneth Gregory today publishes a new edition of his very successful selection of letters to *The Times*, bringing it up to date with choice letters of the quinquennium 1975-80. As usual, it was a vintage epistolary five years, dealing masterfully with toads and teabags, garden gnomes in London's lush suburbs, the National Front and chamber pots (no connexion has yet been suggested, but they will, they will).

It contained at least two classic and long-running exchanges on our tribal notice-board: the one about what to name the Rector's horse and the one about navigating the Ancient Greek uterus. The latter was so prolific and interesting that there were almost enough letters to make a fascinating book on its own. It had all the ingredients for a perfect *Times* correspondence, in-



Nicolas Bentley's cartoon on the cover of *The First Cuckoo*.

cluding the Classics, sailing, science, foreign parts, historical, one-upmanship, and a subject admitting no definitive conclusion.

But you can never tell what is going to turn into an exchange in the bottom-right-hand corner. I thought earlier this year that the expedition to cross the Alps in the footprints of Hannibal's elephants would blossom into a correspondence that would run and run, and still be running.

In his whimsical running commentary to the Letters, Kenneth Gregory detects a theme of strong hostile reaction to index-linked pensions running through the correspondence of the years 1975-80. If one may be so bold about so agreeable a subject for a moment without being owlish, his selection of mainly eccentric or dotty letters and letters by famous names does not do justice to the full beauty of the Letters Page.

What makes it unique is the magisterial and passionate consensus of world affairs of the day at the top, with below the fold some eccentricity or joke or bee in somebody's bonnet buzzed with great earnestness.

And of course you lose the urgency and the topicality in a book. And you lose the weight: only ONE extreme letter, Archons of Athens. Mr Gregory encourages one to look for long-term trends in Letters to the Ed. Numbers have crept steadily up over

the past five years, and we are getting about 55,000 a year at present.

We stopped publishing a separate tranche of letters in *Business News* last summer, and now manage to publish about 15 letters a day on the Letters page. The range of correspondence has grown. For example, it now includes far more trade union officials than a decade ago, and far more diplomats writing officially, perhaps because newly-independent countries are sensitive about their new roles in the world.

A touching number of those who feel impelled to write to the Queen or the Prime Minister send us a copy of their letters. We continue, thank goodness, to attract a blockbusting series: Rivers of Blood, the Pope and the Pill, they sound a bit like the titles of sensational paperback. The Suez crisis attracted 700 letters a day; but the Abolition crisis still remains the biggest.

Office legend records secretaries being unable to force their way into the Letters Room through the mounds of mailbags. The two big topics at present in which Letters to *The Times* are playing their part in the national debate are abortion and nuclear disarmament.

In many ways Leon Pilpel and his team are the most powerful men on *The Times*. They will not change a comma in a letter without consulting the author, and yet, perhaps on a bad night, when copy is running late and the photo-composition room is like a crowd scene from the *Inferno*, a comma, but not a word. So, please keep writing to us, dear correspondents, the choice and master stars of our paper, damn you. For a flavour of the delights and dangers of the Letters Page, consider can enjoy *The First Cuckoo*, to be published in French as *Le Premier Cuckoo* this month, and confirming the ancestral suspicions of the Frogs and the Poundings. For the full meal the rest of us addicts will have to carry on turning first to the Letters Page.

The First Cuckoo, Letters to The Times 1900-1980, new edition with another five years' letters is published this week by Allen & Unwin, £7.95.

Philip Howard

Is Reagan making the same mistakes as Mrs Thatcher?

Geoffrey Smith

The David Stockman affair is likely to be much more than a temporary political tempest in the United States because it will have indirect as well as direct consequences. The range of consequences will be serious enough.

Here is one of President Reagan's principal economic advisers, the man who is widely regarded as the main architect of the Administration's strategy, saying in effect that he has lost confidence in the policy as it has developed. It is inevitable that this should be taken as justification by all those who disapprove of Mr Reagan's economics for whatever reasons. Whether they agree with the details of Mr Stockman's analysis is beside the point. If he does not believe in the policy, why should anyone else?

But Mr Stockman's indiscretion has done more than undermine confidence in the Administration's handling of the economy. It has in the first place focused attention on the fact that the President has committed himself to a collection of incompatible commitments. Not only was he failing to hit his targets, but his choice of targets made it impossible for him to hit them all. The Washington political community knew this already.

The President himself acknowledged in effect during his news conference on Tuesday that not all the heavy promises made in the brave days of campaigning could now be implemented. None of Mr Reagan's promises was under the command of the Administration to balance the budget by 1984. On Tuesday he made it clear that this aspiration has retreated into the indefinite future. Not only was the budget unlikely to be balanced within three years, but he hesitated to set a date or an amount with regard to budget deficits or when a balanced budget would take place. Mr Reagan would have to try very hard to be more precise than that.

The reason he gave for being unable to balance the budget was the recession. Perhaps he might have got away with this explanation as long as it seemed that the Administration knew what it was doing in the economic

field. The recession has certainly made it more difficult to balance the budget, but there are other factors which would in any case have landed the President in difficulties.

Part of the significance of the Stockman affair is that Mr Reagan's explanation will be less readily accepted and public attention will be directed more towards these other factors.

It was never easy to see how this Administration could possibly increase the defence expenditure, cut taxation on personal income and balance the budget. Mr Stockman was not alone in his scepticism about the magical properties of supply-side economics. Perhaps the tax cuts may stimulate an economic revival, but only to a limited extent and only after a time lag. It is more likely that their effect will be cancelled out by higher social security contributions.



Stockman: an undermining indiscretion.

Mr Reagan has further boxed himself in by undertaking in effect not to reduce the value of social security pensions at least until after the report of a bipartisan commission, which has not yet been set up and whose creation has run into difficulties.

In defence expenditure or the partial de-indexing of social security payments.

There has been a dramatic change in the way that Mrs Thatcher is regarded in the United States. She used to be a fairly quiet, unassuming Republican. With elegant intensity she had blazed a trail that they were determined to follow. Yet she appears not as a golden example but as an awful warning. Is Reagan one is asked time and time again by nervous Republicans, going the same way as Thatcher?

The similarities in the difficulties they are encountering, as well as in the strategies they are pursuing, are indeed remarkable. Mr Reagan has failed to heed the principal warning offered by Mrs Thatcher's experience: not to assume that spending cuts will be made before the have been achieved.

In the fourth budget within a few weeks of the 1979 election the present British Government rushed ahead with record income tax reduction without correspondingly spending cuts.

Much the same course has been pursued in the United States this year. Despite her initial failure to secure the spending reductions she wanted, Mrs Thatcher has kept up the pressure, in the apparent belief that the cuts she was seeking were just around the corner.

The effect has been to perpetuate conflict within her cabinet rather than to achieve financial rectitude. The signs are that despite all the warnings signals the Reagan Administration is going down the same road. Cuts of the magnitude required for his strategy are not being made. They cannot be made on the basis of present policies.

America's needs at the moment than he would have provided if left to his own devices. On the basis of present policies and commitments, the budget deficit will rise substantially over the next few years.

But there are voices on Wall Street which argue, as the United States plunges into the worst post war recession, that any major change of policy designed to reduce the deficits — whether by further spending cuts or tax increases — would do more harm than good.

The trouble with such an analysis is that it justifies the policy with which Mr Reagan seems likely to be landed in terms that are very contrary to the Reagan strategy. If he wants to pursue his strategy then he must change some of his policies. If he is going to stick with all his policies, then he will have a job to persuade the country that his strategy remains unchanged.

It may not be a task that is beyond the powers of such an accomplished communicator as Mr Reagan but it has certainly been complicated by Mr Stockman. The country has been made more aware of the inconsistencies and the disagreements within the Administration. There was derisive laughter on Tuesday when the President claimed that "We are a very happy group". The claim was inaccurate then and would be preposterous now.

It is not that the publication of the *Atlantic Monthly* article has disclosed disagreements that were not known already in Washington. It was common knowledge that Mr Stockman has been more concerned than Mr Donald Regan, the Secretary of the Treasury to reduce the budget deficit. He wanted to raise taxes, Mr Regan did not. But these differences have not been brought to the attention of the much wider public. What might have been regarded as legitimate argument now appears as evidence of disarray. Coming on top of the Haig affair last week, the President now faces a major challenge if he is to preserve the appearance not so much of a happy group but of a coherent team who have some idea where they are going.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE CONTRITE MR STOCKMAN

It would be quite a thing if Mr. Alan Walters, the Prime Minister's monetarist economics adviser, announced of M1 or M2 or M3 or PSBR: "None of us really understands what's going on with all these numbers". There is not the slightest suggestion that any such heresy has ever entered the mind of Mr. Walters or Sir Geoffrey Howe, but this is what has happened in the United States where apparent conviction has not merely been succeeded by private doubt but by a public recantation laying bare in the process some of the most sensitive machinery of government. Mr. David Stockman, President Reagan's Director of the Office of Management and Budget, is the author of the confession about numbers, and of so much more in a series of interviews published in the current *Atlantic* magazine. The context of the remarks is being challenged — Mr. Stockman retains faith in the President's programme of which he is a principal architect — but the unchallenged portion of the text has echoes for Britain.

Both new governments were elected pledged to cut public spending, taxation and public borrowing. Doubts were expressed about whether the spending cuts could be made and whether the arithmetic added up. But in the excitement of seeing something being done to turn back the steady advance of the state these points were not pressed in either country. The tax cuts went through, aimed especially at helping the high-income groups to encourage them to produce more. Both new governments promised they could cut total spending and at the same time increase the commitment to defence and maintain social programmes by eliminating waste. At the end of both President Reagan and Mrs. Thatcher's first years, the economic programme has proved to be in distress with high interest rates, the economy in recession, and the government deficit worse, not better.

There is not perfect symmetry but the parallels are remarkable enough to suggest that the candid Mr. Stockman has endured may have lessons for both countries. At the heart of his apostasy is "supply side" economics, in contrast to the economics of demand management loosely associated with Keynes. The Vice-President Mr. George Bush has described the doctrine as "woodoo" because of the magic promised: tax cuts can be presented in a way which makes them acceptable to fiscal conservatives who do not like budget deficits, and concessions for the better off can be presented in a way that is palatable to those in favour of tax cuts.

The doctrine has taken various forms over the years. One version, associated with the "Laffer curves" named after a professor from Southern California, holds that tax cuts actually reduce the government deficit. Later versions suggest that the size of the government deficit does not matter; it is the pattern of its components which count. A third formulation has it that the extra productive energy which will be forthcoming if high tax rates are cut makes all such calculations irrelevant. Mr. Stockman is disillusioned: "supply-side economics" is just a "Trojan Horse" to conceal the real purpose of the Administration, which was to cut taxes for the higher paid.

As Mr. Stockman now admits, the public spending cuts which he carried through in the summer contained large elements of charade. Three quarters of the federal budget was exempted from the exercise. No government serious about cutting spending can really believe that it can all be done by removing fraud and waste. Saying that it can is a fine way to build the idea that there is a consensus for reducing public spending; it is a bad way of ensuring that the spending cuts take place. It produces instead what Mr. Stockman calls "the magic asterisk", the note that further cuts will be announced in due course when they are decided upon. The unwritten magic asterisk in our own government's plans has haunted them every year. Each November there are stories of public spending cuts, yet the total never goes down.

Mr. Stockman has raised a furor in Washington. He has embarrassed President Reagan, a man of equal candour and simple virtues. But he has done a service. When the facts do not fit the hypothesis, whether it be Marxism or monetarism, it is as well to own up. Political economy is a stumbling science and it is as well that all of us should acknowledge it. Political leaders should not be intimidated into fearing frankness. All should profit from the Stockman lesson, for the great danger to democracy does not come from politicians who mislead voters; it comes from voters who want to be misled.

Similarly with research: instead of cutting back Home Office research, he should extend its search for cost-effective and acceptable policies. It might begin by assessing the proposition that preventive strategies have a greater potential for protecting the public than the sentences imposed on the small minority of offenders who are caught.

QUEBEC STILL TO BE SATISFIED

From the British point of view, the recent agreement between Mr. Trudeau and the premiers of the nine English-speaking provinces of Canada removes a serious constitutional difficulty. The way is becoming clear for Westminster to do what it has done in the past and simply approve this latest, and last, amendment to the British North America Act of 1867, which will then finally be "patriated" to Canada, giving that country control of its own constitution. If the patriation formula had come from Ottawa with the backing of only two of the provinces, and with eight of them opposed as Mr. Trudeau was earlier threatening, it would have run into difficulties here. It is not the business of Westminster to examine the merits of any such proposal coming from Ottawa, but it has to be satisfied that constitutional process is being properly observed. Serious doubts were being raised about that, reinforced by the judgments of the Canadian Supreme Court. But with the approval of nine provinces, even with the significant exception of Quebec, it would be legitimate for Westminster to take the view that the requirements of the Canadian Supreme Court had been met, and that no sufficient grounds remained for standing in the way of patriation.

For the future of Canada, however, it would be most unfortunate if the split between Quebec and the rest of the country persisted. The main object of the long campaign to patriate the British North America Act has been to remove the last vestige of colonial status and adjust to modern needs the federal character of the Canadian state. It would compromise this purpose if it was done over the objection of Quebec, the embodiment of one of the two founding nations. There is the danger that if Ottawa were felt to be to blame, the movement for separation, now much weakened, would be reviewed. So it is important that a serious effort should be made to reach an agreement between Ottawa and Quebec on the three contentious issues: worker mobility, financial compensation for provinces which opt out of federal provincial programmes and, most sensitive of all, rights for minority languages.

In the immediate aftermath of the agreement between Mr. Trudeau and the nine premiers Mr. Lévesque refused any such negotiations. He talked of being betrayed by the other premiers and said that Quebec would campaign against the agreement. There were suggestions that he might hold a referendum on an election on the issue. All this was hardly surprising, given the fact that the others had met without even informing him; and he may have hoped that there would be a wave of anger in Quebec. But there have since been indications that the great majority of the inhabitants of the province do not approve of the stand he has taken and want him to reopen negotiations with Ottawa. And Mr. Lévesque himself has qualified his refusal to do so.

There is of course no reason why, as an avowed separatist — though his party put the issue on one side at the last election — he should want to do anything to strengthen federal Canada. He has also been strongly critical of the proposed minority language clause on the ground that it would conflict with recent Quebec legislation restricting the teaching of English. But there is compensation in the fact that the English-speaking provinces have now, for the first time, accepted a constitutional obligation to provide teaching in French — even though in the case of Manitoba this has still to be ratified by the provincial legislature. This deals with one of the longest-standing complaints of French Canadians, and many in Quebec are aware of that. There are good reasons for Mr. Trudeau and Mr. Lévesque, two French Canadians, to make a further effort to reach agreement, and their differences are sufficiently manageable to make the effort worth while.

There are plenty of efforts now being made to develop schemes of care for disabled children who cannot be cared for by their parents; and these efforts will grow and spread. Are they to be set back by a despairing reversion to barbarism? Mr. Gray should remember that archaic Roman society, like other primitive societies, recognized the right of a father to kill his child, from birth even up to adulthood, but as Roman society and law developed this right was ever more closely circumscribed by the state and finally had to be void. The idea of private extermination is no more compatible with civilization and liberty than that of state extermination: a truly civilized man and a true lover of liberty will firmly reject both.

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SUBLIME HARMONY IN WALNUT CASE

They say that a man-of-war is never in such good order as on the day she is paid off. All possible teething troubles have been ironed out at last, twenty years' spit and polish stand at their climax, and tomorrow the flag is run down and the vessel prepared for the ship-breakers. It is often the same with art collections: Whitehall Palace was never more densely hung with Titians and Raphaels than on the day when King Charles's head fell. The great sale at Mentmore, with strawberries in the marquee and buyers' helicopters alighting on the lawn, was like a last crowning expression of the *fin de siècle* vulgarity that created it.

Another collection passes under the hammer today, and it can never have made such an effect as it does now, with all its 506 lots on display together for the first time, filling the iron-framed Big Top where Christies auction their most unwieldy white elephants. The saleroom gloom is riven by a cacophony of ragtime, Chinese bells, martial fanfares, thunderous sonatas and automatic birdsong as Mr. Claes Friberg's Copenhagen collection of musical machines plays its own Last Post over and over again for the benefit of calculating buyers.

The collection has its own enourage of fair-haired Danish children who demonstrate the levers expertly and feverishly, as if they had grown up with them. The lots range from repeating watches to ebonized Bechstein and Steinway grands fitted up for piano-rolls (the catalogue does not vulgarly call the latter pianolas but "reproducing pianos") as if the auctioneer was guaranteeing them ready to stand at stud). There are ranked shelves of record players with hinged flower speakers, silver, brass or jappanned, and rows of family-sized musical boxes like hand-cranked commodes in the Chippendale or Tyrolean style. For larger versions, the iron cylinders embossed with tunes are as massive as chicken-legs.

There is a chicle which squawks and lays a faded gift egg once filled with sweets, if fed with a pre-Heater ten-penny piece. An item resembling Sherlock Holmes's tobacco pipe emits music if you blow while unrolling a perforated paper-roll. The verbal exuberance matches the mechanical ingenuity: Gramophone and Graphophone, Phonograph and Phonola are here together, and the Weber Maestro Orchestra without a Dulciphone Crescendo. Major sound-box stands beside the upright Symphonion still fitted with its Sublime Harmony combs in walnut case. But the virtuosity reaches its supreme pitch with the Model C Phonolist-Violina, a player-piano eight feet tall with a small torture-chamber at the top where three violins are pinioned by contrivances reminiscent of American orthodontics. A catgut hoop spins round them and as the violins are raised in turn to touch it they combine to strike out *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* with a terrible brio that seems to threaten the whole future of live performance. If one quarter of the ingenuity lavished on these lost arts had been available to NASA, the space shuttle would surely not now be blinking round its orbit with a dud fuel-cell.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Justice and imprisonment

From Mr Martin Wright
Sir, On the last day of my 10 years as Director of the Howard League for Penal Reform, may I claim the privilege of a last letter to you in that capacity?
Imprisonment is a harsh and damaging punishment, as BBC2's *Strangers* series shows. Mr Whitelaw is mistaken, I believe, in making prison overcrowding the basis of his plea for a reduction of imprisonment. Even more important is the injustice of inflicting the most severe punishment in the land on minor offenders. Thirty per cent of prisoners are there for petty offences.
It is also unjust to impose more severe punishments than necessary. Sentences have two aims: practical and symbolic. Available evidence indicates that longer sentences do not add significantly to deterrence or public protection, but make people in contact with the word "habit" advisedly the length of any particular sentence cannot be justified except in relation to previous sentences.)
Secondly, justice must extend to prisoners. They should be treated more in contact with families (the minimum entitlement for visits is still only 6½ hours a year; home leave is negligible; and letters are rationed and censored), and adequate opportunity to prepare for release.
Safeguards must be improved: it is time to abolish rule 47(12), by which a prisoner may be punished for a complaint against an officer if it is considered "false and malicious". Prison officers should follow the Police Federation in accepting that an open complaints procedure protects them against allegations of whitewash.
Thirdly, Mr Whitelaw should resist the Treasury dogma that financial cuts must be made across the board. If he offered the prison service more resources, conditions would improve, reducing the prison population, the total saving would be much greater. He should discard the notion of a "taste of prison": supervision in the community is more constructive and less expensive.
Similarly with research: instead of cutting back Home Office research, he should extend its search for cost-effective and acceptable policies. It might begin by assessing the proposition that preventive strategies have a greater potential for protecting the public than the sentences imposed on the small minority of offenders who are caught.

Government severity on local spending

From Mr Martin Eastale
Sir, The Government's Bill to restrict the freedom of all local authorities to fix their own rates strikes not just at "local" democracy but at the whole democratic case of Britain. There is no such thing as "local" democracy for it must be considered as part of the complete democratic framework of this country, and if one part is weakened the whole must inevitably be weakened as well.
The core of the Government's case is that local government has failed to stick to expenditure guidelines. As this has only happened once in the past then the response seems out of all proportion to the offence: like jailing someone for a minor traffic offence.
The basis of the Government's view is that local government as a whole should stick rigidly and precisely to a figure of total expenditure set out in the public expenditure forecasts. This is an economic and a democratic falsehood. In the economic sense, this supposed overspending in relation to total GNP, or even in relation to total public expenditure, is insignificant and only important if we invest our economic statistics with a degree of accuracy that they never have had in the past and never will achieve.
In two or three years' time, when all the relevant statistics for this year are reviewed, I am sure it will be found that there was in fact no significant overspending at all and therefore no real crisis.
The Government's position is also false when viewed from the standpoint of our democratic traditions. This is because the figure for local government expenditure is treated by the Treasury just like an estimate for any central government department or service. No doubt the Government have a right to set precise figures for their own spending, though they rarely manage to keep to them. But the principle of local decision-making surely requires that the Government should allow local government some margin of variation from a centrally fixed target.
Just a margin of one or two percentage points either way would not upset economic management and would recognise that local government is in a quite different position to that of any government department or even of the nationalised industries.
Rather than push ahead with further ill-considered legislation the Government should now call a constitutional convention to discuss the whole issue so that our democratic tradition is not irreversibly weakened.
Yours faithfully,
MARTIN EASTALE,
General Manager,
Harlow Council,
Town Hall,
Harlow, Essex,
November 9.

Poor prospects for rate recovery

From Professor P. B. H. Birks
Sir, Commentators responding on the radio to the Bromley case have more than once said that people who have already paid the quashed rate will be entitled to have their money back. Similar statements were made after *Daymond v South West Water Authority* (1976) AC609 in which the House of Lords held to be ultra vires the sewerage charges imposed on those whose houses were not connected to the public system.
In neither case were the courts directly faced with the question whether payments already made could be recovered. Sooner or later this important issue will have to be considered by the House of Lords, though probably not in the Bromley appeal. In the meantime many people will be surprised to know that the balance of existing authority is against any right of recovery.
In jurisdictions in which the existence of a written constitution contains the risk that general taxing statutes may be declared invalid by the courts, the argument against allowing this kind of recovery is founded on the danger of massive disproportion between the burden likely to be borne by individuals and violent disruption of public finances. In this country the same problem has to be faced in relation to subordinate taxation.
The courageous fervour compressed into the tag *Fiat iustitia ruat coelum* should not lead anyone to suppose that there is no point at which the balance swings in favour of the public. In *Daymond*, for example, the amount at stake for the individual payer was less than £5, while for the water authorities the sum at issue annually was £33m.
Yours faithfully,
PETER BIRKS,
University of Edinburgh,
Department of Civil Law,
Old College,
South Bridge,
Edinburgh,
November 11.

Misuse of psychiatry

From Dr John Marks
Sir, No decent person could read the letter from Dr Koryagin (November 13) without feeling revulsion for the Soviet psychiatrists who misuse their professional skills in the interests of the state.
You report that the British Medical Association condemned this practice and presented a motion to the World Medical Association meeting in Lisbon. In fact the Assembly of the World Medical Association accepted the BMA's opinion that the misuse of psychiatry was too great an issue to be left merely with psychiatrists and concerns all doctors.
It passed our motion unanimously and further resolved that the national medical associations present should communicate with their governments in an attempt to persuade the Soviet authorities to abandon their misuse of medicines.
One can only hope that continuous publicity might shame the Soviets into acting in accordance with the laws of humanity.
Yours faithfully,
JOHN MARKS,
Chairman of the Representative Body of the British Medical Association,
Tavistock Square, WC1,
November 13.

After Yorktown

From Mr Laurence Cotterell
Sir, Mr Anthony Burley (October 30) must not be too precipitate in his understandable eagerness to re-enact the Potomac, and routed the 9,000 American defenders, artillery and all. As one historian put it: "Never was the capital of a nation so easily taken, and never did the capital of a nation which had given so much irritating provocation escape with so little scar.".
In fairness to the Americans, it must be said that on this occasion they had no seasoned French allies to carry the day, as they did at Yorktown.
Yours faithfully,
LAURENCE COTTERELL,
121 St Paul's Wood Hill,
St Paul's Cray,
Kent.

Over-exposed

From Mr P. R. Noakes
Sir, You owe me and possibly others an apology for publishing that Cambridge Union photograph of officers, members and a friend (November 7). For years I have been holding diplomatic and other dinner tables spellbound with my discreet reminiscences of Cambridge in the Thirties, letting it slip that I was much involved in politics, became president of the Union, and so on.
Now you have spoilt it all. I am unmasked as among that dull majority not approached — your word — by Professor Stuart, of whom I have had to confess, I had never even heard — nor, alas, of Mr Long. You gave my Union colleague, Mr Michael Straight, a distinguishing circle but you then publish his letter (November 7) in which he admits to nothing of which I can be ashamed.
I feel strongly that private citizens have the right at least to be warned before evidence of their loyalty is published.
Yours faithfully,
P. R. NOAKES,
Little St Mary's,
Uplym, Lyme Regis,
Dorset,
November 8.

Parental duties

From Mr C. W. A. Flynn
Sir, Mr Roger Gray (November 11) is right to remind us that parents are the natural and rightful guardians of their children. But children do not "belong" to their parents, as inanimate objects do; and it is a grave perversion of the traditional notion of guardianship to suggest that it permits guardian to "take a decision about the life or death of the child".
Our society has never regarded it as reasonable or normal, or free from blame, for a parent or guardian to administer a poisonous drug to a newborn infant (whether handicapped or not) in doses sufficient to kill an adult: nor can a doctor escape condemnation for such an act, simply by asserting that he is carrying out the parents' wishes in doing so.
If a guardian cannot any longer carry out his duties towards his ward, that does not entitle him, and never has entitled him, to kill his ward. His right course must clearly be to ensure that his responsibilities are laid upon someone else. In a case where the natural parents of a child born disabled are given a proper opportunity to consider the whole matter (not just a few hours), and they cannot face the task of bringing the child up, then the parents can yield up their task to foster parents, or to adoptive parents, with the help of social services and voluntary organizations.

There are plenty of efforts now being made to develop schemes of care for disabled children who cannot be cared for by their parents; and these efforts will grow and spread. Are they to be set back by a despairing reversion to barbarism? Mr. Gray should remember that archaic Roman society, like other primitive societies, recognized the right of a father to kill his child, from birth even up to adulthood, but as Roman society and law developed this right was ever more closely circumscribed by the state and finally had to be void. The idea of private extermination is no more compatible with civilization and liberty than that of state extermination: a truly civilized man and a true lover of liberty will firmly reject both.

Tea-break strike

From Sister Ann Stirling
Sir, Hearing on the media yesterday and today about British Leyland going on strike about rest breaks being reduced, I would like to put a point.
We, at the Eastman, as in all hospitals, work according to patients' needs. If we lose our coffee, lunch or tea breaks we do not complain, but feel at the end of the day that our out-patient hospital that our last patient has been discharged, fit to go home. This is our criterion.
Surely industry could learn a lesson from us, especially since we are at the bottom of the pecking order regarding decent salary for a decent day's work. We are not martyrs, nor wish to be so. We, too, would like more money to cope with inflation, but are not British Leyland biting the hand that feeds them?
If NHS nurses were to strike, would industry do then?
Yours faithfully,
ANN STIRLING,
Eastman Dental Hospital,
256 Gray's Inn Road, WC1,
November 12.

Mosley's message

From Mr Alan D. Hadfield
Sir, The amended defence regulation under which Sir Oswald Mosley was detained was made by Order in Council on May 22, 1940, some nine months after the outbreak of war and on the same day the first war Cabinet of the coalition government met.
The Home Secretary, John Anderson, reported to that meeting (CAB 65/ WM 133 (40) 140) that two intelligence officers who had paid special attention over the years to Mosley's British Union had been unable to produce any evidence that the Union had anything to do with fifth-column activities; if anything the reverse was true.
When asked, they gave as their opinion that "a certain proportion of members of the organization, say, 25-30 per cent, would be willing, if ordered, to go to any lengths". The Home Secretary, armed with this guess as to what

an estimated proportion of suspected persons might do, if ordered, considered that Mosley was "a most mischievous person too clever by half to put himself in the wrong by giving treasonable orders".
The conclusion seems to be that if Mosley was not doing anything unlawful, the scope of Regulation 18B would be moved. The Cabinet agreed to 18B(1A) permitting the Home Secretary to order the detention of any person who, he believed, had any sympathy "with the system of government of any Power with which His Majesty was at war".
The historical context of 18B(1A) was clearly fear of imminent invasion, but equally it is clear that the amendment was one of the first executive acts of the coalition government.
Yours faithfully,
ALAN D. HADFIELD,
12 Saxon Road,
Bow, E3,
November 8.

Arts Council criticism

From the Chairman of the Arts Council
Sir, In his article "Arts Council at the Crossroads" (November 9) Mr Bryan Appleyard takes me to task for a mild observation in my introduction to the 1980/81 Annual Report that the Arts Council welcomed criticism provided that it was based on fact rather than fiction. His piece neatly illustrates my point.
In a sentence, which begins significantly "anecdotes proliferate", he makes a damaging attack on the competence and conduct of Arts Council staff which is wholly unwarranted and unsupported by any evidence. His description of the council's decision-making

process is equally far removed from reality. This is what I meant by fiction.
There are other less serious inaccuracies. On no less than three occasions Mr Appleyard bestows on me, doubtless with kindly intent, a title to which I can lay no claim. He asserts too that I have indicated privately my intention to retire next March, whereas the fact is that my five-year term as Chairman expires not in March but on April 30, 1982, and I have merely said that I am not seeking an extension.
Yours faithfully,
KENNETH ROBINSON,
The Arts Council of Great Britain,
105 Piccadilly, W1,
November 10.

A heavier missile

From the University Chaplain, University of Sussex
Sir, You would not wish your newspaper to be judged by the number of its misprints and we do not wish our university to be judged by flying tomatoes (report, November 12). The University of Sussex is a serious community devoted to study and research, and you misrepresent it by the disproportionate space given to one unfortunate incident.
You would do well to concentrate on what the Government is throwing at us and the rest of higher education, since we believe the damage this is doing both now and for this country's future far outweighs the temporary discomfort of Dr Owen.
Yours faithfully,
COLIN P. THOMPSON,
The University of Sussex,
Meeting House,
Falmer,
Brighton,
Sussex,
November 12.

Matrimonial burdens

From Mr Thomas Lawrie
Sir, If I insure my wife at replacement value, as indicated in the item on your front page today (November 11) and if the insurers should find that, in addition to the 14 hours' work per day which they reckon she performs, she has also been doing a moonlight job for me on the side for which it is even costlier to obtain a professional replacement, will they apply average to my claim?
Yours faithfully,
THOMAS L. LAWRIE,
The Old Manse,
Barnack,
Leamington,
November 11.

Saturday Review

The humane face of genius

January 1, 1944 was not a propitious time for the designer of great Edwardian country houses to die. England was a depressing place during that grey winter. The war seemed never ending. Perhaps the tide had turned, but the ceaseless destruction by all the combatants of the European monuments seemed to go on and on. For a man who passionately cared for old buildings and the traditions that had made them it must have seemed ghastly.

It started in Holland, but had soon moved to England. London, Exeter and Bath were bombed, but that was nothing compared with the destruction experienced in Italy as the Allies smashed their way up the country. In France, the medieval cities of Caen and Rouen were lost, places in which the architect some 60 years earlier had wandered as a young man, discovering the way in which roofs lapped around tall towers and how the classical orders could be used with wit and style. They were lessons that he was to put to good use in all those "dream houses" in what now seemed a world lost for ever.

And, finally, Germany, led ironically by a man who loved architecture but who brought on to his country a destruction never before experienced in a European war. Every ancient city was destroyed, every day a medieval town or a baroque palace was smashed by Bomber Harris. Nuremberg, Munich, Lubeck, and neo-classical Berlin — at least Lutyens was spared hearing of the most scandalous destruction of all, the firing of Dresden.

Architects could do little about all this. Ninian Comper discovered that the Campanile in Venice was being used by the RAF as an aiming mark and, by forcing his way into Churchill's presence, succeeded in stopping that. But Lutyens, the 72-year-old President of the Royal Academy, dying of cancer, found that he could do little but design grandiose schemes for London (not dissimilar to the schemes that Hitler and Speer were toying with in Berlin), which assumed that by the end

of the war practically everything would be gone and that it would be necessary to rebuild the whole of the great war.

Throughout the world the modern revolution seemed to have conquered, not just in the professedly revolutionary states led by Hitler and Stalin, but even in England, where the leftist intellectuals in the ABCA (the Open University of their day) pressed their beliefs on to the unsuspecting soldiery. But those soldiers who were already architects needed no ABCA training. They already had a very different view of architecture from those held by Lutyens and those architects who had been involved in the short English Renaissance between 1880 and 1914.

Had Lutyens lived as long as his American contemporary, Frank Lloyd Wright, who died in 1959 aged 92, he would not have found much to his liking in the modern world, a world that rejected everything that he believed in, an age which cared nothing for traditional materials and traditional forms. He would have found little to enjoy in the Festival of Britain.

When, in 1950, *Country Life*, in a magnificent gesture, published the four great volumes of the *Lutyens Memorial*, few people could be found to give anything but the faintest praise to the work of an architect who had dominated British architecture in one of the few periods in which it, like British music of that time, was admired throughout the world.

The people for whom Lutyens had worked seemed to be without relevance in the 1950s, or as Robert Furneaux Jordan put it, ignoring Lutyens's brilliant architecture and talking only of his clients: "It was all lily ponds, lavender walks and pot-pourri in a Surrey garden. It was also an architecture [which] served mainly to conceal, ever so charmingly, the whole apparatus of conspicuous waste. It all died, as it should have died, in August 1914" (*Victorian Architecture*, Pelican 1966).

Indeed, for an architect, the few years after 1918 were not dissimilar to the years after 1945; the world of the country



Sir Edwin Lutyens: he dominated British architecture at a time when, like British music, it was admired throughout the world.

house had not survived the holocaust begun at Sarajevo. Elgar who, like Lutyens, seemed able to interpret that strangely nostalgic Edwardian dream, found himself after 1919 overcome with depression, and the result was the *Cello Concerto* — that great threnody to the fallen. The last 15 years of his life were barren in spite of the adulation that he received as England's greatest composer since Purcell.

Lutyens, widely considered England's greatest architect since Wren, could not so easily give up. He was only 50 when the war ended and was more ambitious than Elgar had ever been. He had to go on. He had his great palace, The Viceroy's House, New Delhi, to complete, and very soon he was to be commissioned to build the largest cathedral in the world, the Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool, only just started in 1939 and destined never to be completed.

It was work on the drawings of this unrealized masterpiece that was to be his only bright time during the last unhappy war years. However, palaces and cathedrals smacked of a past age and perhaps even in 1920 they had little contemporary relevance. But in 1919 Lutyens created in the Cenotaph, a lasting symbol of the loss that the world sustained in the Great War.

He had been commissioned by Lloyd George, only two weeks

before it was needed, to design a "catafalque" past which the troops could march during the victory parade of 1919. He quickly sketched the design and suggested the archaic name Cenotaph for his temporary monument. It was built in wood and plaster, and became an instant success. In its understatement, it seemed to catch exactly the mood of the crowds still reeling under the appalling losses of the war to end war.

The next day *The Times* in a leading article demanded that it be rebuilt in stone and by November 11 1920 the body of the Unknown Warrior was carried past Lutyens's new stone Cenotaph.

Since then it has remained the national symbol of the loss sustained in the wars of the twentieth century. But, like Elgar's *Cello Concerto*, it is a very personal memorial, which reflects a deep depression felt by its author, not just for the loss of a complete generation of young men but for the loss of a world which, for all its unfairness and misery none the less offered to more people than at any other time a secure vision of settled peace and ultimate prosperity.

After the Cenotaph there could be little doubt that it would be Lutyens who received the lion's share of the commissions for the war memorials that were being built in the graveyards in Northern France. For these he designed a series

of monuments in which he developed a unique three-dimensional geometry. This culminated in 1926 in his magnificent Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, using interlocking arches in a highly complex manner which had more to do with the three-dimensional experiments being made at that time just a few miles away in Holland by the revolutionary De Stijl designers, than anything being designed in the rather prim offices of his Neo-Georgian contemporaries.

But while the work of the Dutchmen is illustrated in every contemporary volume on twentieth century architecture, Lutyens's buildings are usually ignored and certainly would not be included in any treatise on modern architecture. It is doubtful if Lutyens would have worried about this. None the less, had the great monuments been published at the time, it is doubtful if his reputation would have sunk quite so low as it did in the 1950s.

He had only himself to blame. It was not that his outlook was particularly reactionary. Many of the leaders of the modern movement were happy to base their architecture on classical principles and all of them paid lip service to the Arts and Crafts Movement, of which Lutyens was one of the leaders. But it was the way that he seemed to grab jobs just for the sake of getting them that stuck in the craw of the younger architects.

On the eve of a major London exhibition devoted to the architecture of Sir Edwin Lutyens, Roderick Gradidge applauds his restoration to critical respectability after two generations of disdain

No doubt this cynicism was born of the despair created by the Great War, but it was not pleasant to see Lutyens putting his name to great banks and office blocks, particularly as it was known that a good 90 per cent of the work was often done by other architects — architects who had sometimes been appointed to the job, but had found that it was easier to get their plans through such bodies as the Grosvenor Estate Office if Lutyens's name was attached to the scheme.

It is a situation not unknown in the profession today. Lutyens became very cynical in the Thirties as he chased after prestigious jobs, humming to himself at the drawing board: "How sweet the name of genius sounds in the reporter's ear."

It was not just Lutyens who found himself in this position. Guy Dawber was another great country-house architect whose reputation is not improved by his London work. And Detmar Blow, who, after being discovered as a young man by Ruskin, was led by him to the Arts and Crafts experiments which Gimson was conducting, and in turn, led to his building with his own hands simple country cottages which today seem to be at least 300 years old. But, after the Great War, Blow got involved with the Duke of Westminster and the Grosvenor Estate and nearly went under when he proved unable to handle complex financial deals, while rebuilding for the Duke a lot of Mayfair in a stilted Neo-Georgian style.

It wasn't really the fault of the architects. They had risen to the top of the profession as country-house architects. Suddenly the only work available to them was something of which they had no experience. But the inexperience showed in the ill-planned buildings of the Thirties, with elaborate stone classical details hung on to a steel frame — so much less stylish than the work of their American contemporaries, which showed a professionalism they were unable to match.

So the bright young architects of the Thirties felt only disdain for their elders. They, after all, knew what the answer was. It

was called Functionalism. And at that time it seemed (as did the related Communism) very like the answer. They could ignore everything that went before Gropius. Lutyens most certainly had nothing to teach them.

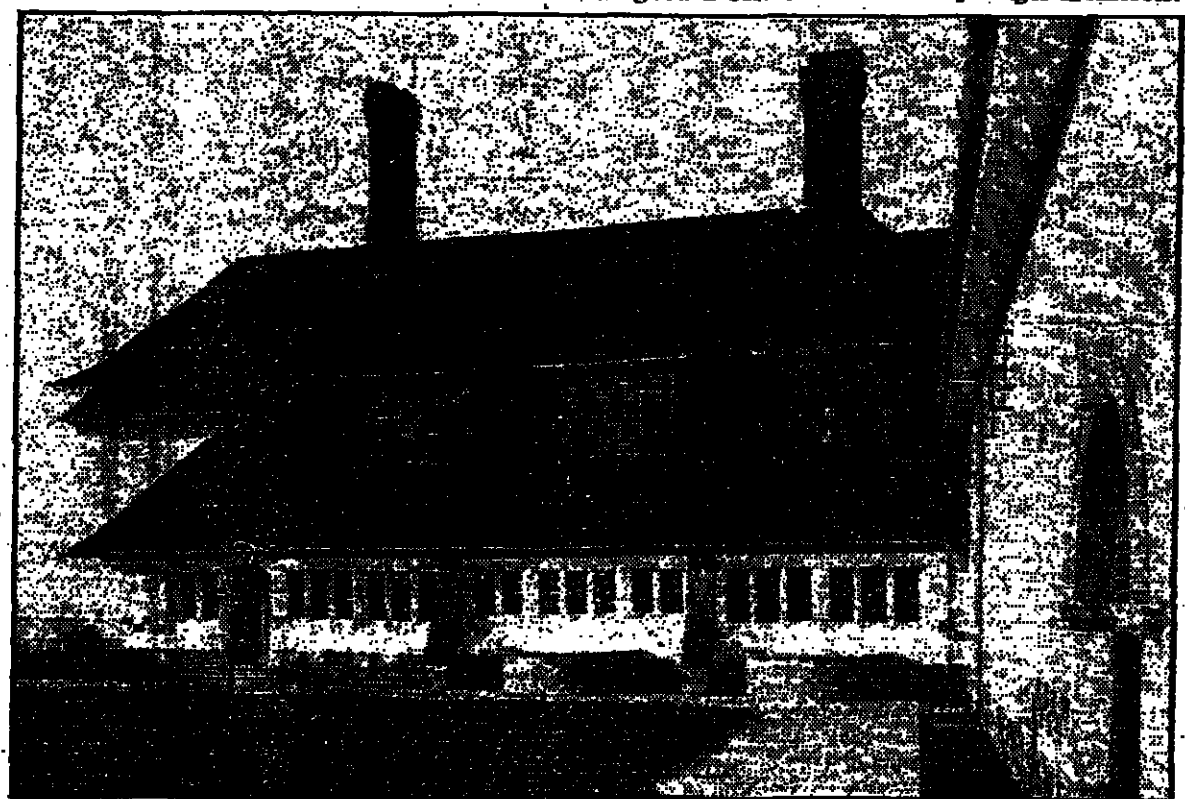
All this was a great pity. If only they had had the humility to learn from him they could have grafted on to their logical architecture a feeling for materials and an understanding of architectural form, which would have made their buildings part of the landscape instead of being imposed upon it — a process which has inevitably alienated the public from modern architecture.

This alienation is a very "modern" concept. In the theatre and in painting it is used to some effect, but in architecture it has led to an insensitivity of the needs of the very people for whom the buildings are intended. The riots in the cities last summer were not the result of bad housing (which had somehow survived despite 40 years of the welfare state). But did not at least part of the cause lie in the failure of well-known "modern" architects to understand human needs?

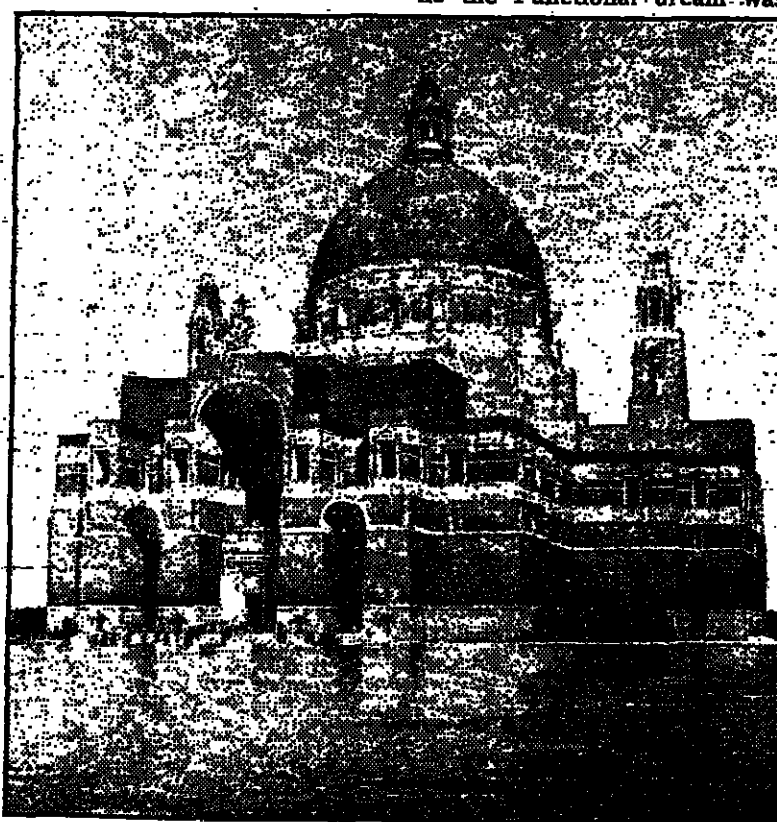
It was these modern architects who, as young men in the Twenties and Thirties, rejected Lutyens and all that he stood for. Now they, in their time, are being rejected by a younger generation which finds that, in spite of all his inconsistencies — or perhaps because of them — Lutyens has more to offer us today than, say, Le Corbusier.

If the Lutyens Exhibition — and the related Gertrude Jekyll Exhibition at the Architectural Association at Bedford Square (which only a few years ago was the home of hard-line modernists in England; so sharply has architectural opinion changed) puts across to the public just a taste of his humane genius, then the public will also come to ask why we have had to put up with so much insensitive architecture for so long.

Although it is true to say that the public gets the sort of architecture that it asks for, if it is never shown what alternatives there are, then it will never be in a position to see what a great lie the Functional dream was.



The Cenotaph (left, at its unveiling, November 11, 1920) is both national memorial and personal symbol. Marshcourt (above, 1901), near Stockbridge, Hampshire, displays in its details Lutyens's delight in complex forms. The model (above right) for the unfinished Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool (1929-40) reveals Wren's influence. Munstead Wood (1896), near Godalming, Surrey (right) glimpsed through its shrubbery as intended by both architect and the gardener Gertrude Jekyll, for whom he designed it. The Arts Council's Lutyens exhibition opens on Wednesday at the Hayward Gallery on London's South Bank, and continues until January 31.



Travel: edited by Shona Crawford Poole

Skiing in Wyoming

Riding the slopes in cowboy country

Mist rising over the Snake River valley at dawn on a crisp winter's morning is a sight worth crossing the Atlantic to see. Elk stand about in the nearby distances, crested ducks bob in the streams, and from the flat snowy peaks of the valley floor, the Grand Teton mountains rise sharp and awesome, their jagged peaks glinting in the early Wyoming sunshine.

A skiing holiday in Jackson Hole in Wyoming is more than a splendid ski experience, though it is certainly that. The chutes and gullies of Rendezvous Mountain are challenge enough to draw the hard men of skiing year after year, and there are plenty of

intermediates who like their skiing interesting. Racing the cable car 2.4 miles down the mountain, a drop of 4,139 feet, is a popular sport for the fit and fearless. And there is another sight one does not see too often on steep mountains, real cross-country skiers sweeping down with graceful telemark turns. The cable car, by the way, is bookable, so you can eat breakfast instead of queuing. Chairlifts make up the rest of the lift system, and as usual in American resorts, there are ski host guides to the mountain. The grooming of the intermediate slopes is immaculate.

Teton Village, the resort

area at the base of Rendezvous Mountain, is a well-designed modern development with luxury and budget hotel and condominium accommodation, shops, bars, restaurants and a bus service into town.

Town is Jackson Hole where real cowboys only they call them ranchers, can be seen loping along the boardwalks, playing pool or dancing the western swing in the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar.

Drink bourbon in the Cowboy Bar or chocolate malted across the street at Jackson Drug where the old-fashioned soda fountain looks like the set for a boyhood of Mickey Rooney film. The drug store

sells guns, fortune cookies and sacks of Bull Durham tobacco for rolling one-handed in the saddle. For a western hat (Stetson) is a make not a style) and a roundup on hat lore, step over to the outfitter across the square.

We stayed at Jackson Hole Racquet Club, between town and Teton Village, and much enjoyed the domestic splendours of the American way of life. A one-bedroom condominium is enormous with walk-in refrigerator, dishwasher, washing machine, dryer and log burning fireplace. The Racquet Club has its own shops, restaurant and sports facilities. So if it were

not for the skiing and other distractions of the area, there would be no need to stray further than the front gate.

One excursion not to be missed, despite its exhausting discomfort, is a snowmobile track to see the geysers in Yellowstone Park. This is not the "wilderness experience" the brochures describe. There is no straying from the groomed track and no loitering at speeds anything less than 30 mph to admire the view. It is, without doubt a kind of desecration to create such a disturbance of the peace with these noisy machines, but the views are utterly breathtaking, and

there were buffalo grazing round Old Faithful.

How to get there: Frontier Airlines has daily flights to Jackson Hole from Denver and from Salt Lake City. Ski America has a Jackson package from £504 for two weeks including the transatlantic flight. For details of the resort and locally available packages write to Teton Village Resort Association, Jackson Hole, Wyoming 83001. For details of rentals and ski school arrangements write to the Racquet Club, Jackson Hole Racquet Club Resort, Star Route 362A, Jackson Hole, Wyoming 83001.

S.C.P.

Resorts/Nicholas Hirst

All the ups and downs

The voice sounded as though it came from the top of a horse. "Do you know," it said, "there has been a dirty wine glass in my room since Tuesday." Think it was Friday at the time, but it doesn't really matter. There are people who like the informality of the occasional dirty glass in a chaise longue and people who do not.

The young lady with the voice should have chosen an hotel. One, perhaps, like the Hotel Des Neiges where I stayed in Courchevel, a French resort where the tres chic French rub shoulders with other tres chic French, the night clubs have tres chic French entertainers — last year a high-class dress show and the restaurants serve up enough calories in a day to take a week to ski off.

Those who prefer chalets or self-catering would do better to stay in Meribel, part of the three-valley ski area linking Courchevel and Val Thorens. The lift system is fast and efficient with little queuing and other routes when queues do form, and the choice of resort should de-

pend on choice of accommodation.

For me, staying in a luxury hotel while skiing was a new experience, not that my experience is very extensive, but it is easy to see how the pampered feeling can grow on you. At the Hotel Des Neiges there was even someone to carry skis out of the ski room on to the snow for you. Ah, luxury. But the real luxury is the skiing. This is a resort for those who can enjoy the panorama of the three valleys, the fast black runs sweeping down from Courchevel 1850 to 1300, and the bumps of Col De Chauxrossa, and if the weather is good the terrifying "Coulloirs" leading down from La Souleire.

The three-valleys run itself, taking you high above Meribel-Mottaret, where there is an excellent self-service restaurant by the lift station, involves little transversing and much excellent skiing. In the mid-March when I was there, except for one day of rain, the sun was so warm it was actually sensible to ski in jeans and a shirt with something warm and snowproof carried just in case.

High up, the snow remained good with a light covering swirling under your skis, but ice, particularly going down to Meribel, made the slopes treacherous. Sloping skiing, rinks where even tigers could fall. The other problem is getting back to Meribel before the lifts close, avoiding an expensive taxi ride.

Late in the season the black runs down from 1850 to 1300 are best attempted early in the morning before the sun turns the snow into heavy going slush on the lower slopes. I hit the Jean Blanc run, an international piste, "hit" from time to time being the operative word, as the first real run of the day. It starts in a steep mogul bowl and then levels out and falls in step with some really fast stretches through 34 marked stages to pick up a chair lift at the bottom, and bring you back for a go at jockeys, a shorter, seemingly steeper version of the same thing.

With 300 kilometres of marked skiing and all the off-piste anybody could ever wish for this is an area where you could return for several years and still find something new to do. For beginners there is a long, gentle piste running beside the main hotels and good intermediate skiing around Altitude, where there is another good restaurant.

But for eating, the place not to miss is Le Yaca at Courchevel 1300, a nouvelle cuisine establishment, per excellence where the light, joints are roasted over an open fire, and more courses are presented than you can count.



Alta, Utah... some of the slopes are matchless.

The Rockies/John Young

Nordic gods and pampered pistes

"Ladies and gentlemen, it's winter in Denver." We soon saw what the pilot meant as our aircraft lurched and bumped its way through a grey fog that blurred every feature of the snowbound landscape. A white blizzard drove the snow in vicious eddies across the tarmac and around the terminal buildings. Winter it was indeed.

We had flown down from, of all places, Anchorage, Alaska, on the daily morning "red-eye" flight, which leaves shortly after midnight to allow passengers to catch breakfast-time connections from Seattle to other American cities. That had been preceded by a 10-hour flight from Gatwick, so that we were not in the best of shape to begin a week's strenuous skiing.

A sunny Sunday on Copper Mountain, Colorado, and something to restore morale. But by the time we reached our next destination, Salt Lake City, the following evening, the blizzards had returned, and we ended up pushing our minibuses up the road to Snowbird.

Snowstorms are, of course, seen in entirely different ways by permanent residents of ski resorts, whose livelihood depends on regular and copious precipitation, and by itinerant journalists who are respected in the space of a few frantic hours to report on what the United States has to offer British tourists. No doubt that particular storm deposited a good deal of the deep powder for which Utah is famous. But, being unable to see more than a couple of feet in front of my ice-encrusted goggles, I failed to derive the pleasure that I undoubtedly should have.

The next two days were a great improvement. Park City, some 25 miles the other side of the state capital, is a cheerfully restored mining town, which is by way of being a national monument. Its bawdy, uninhibited past contrasts curiously with the present-day liquor laws which apparently require that, in order to drink wine in a restaurant, you must either become a "club member" or bring a bottle with you in

what is known as a "brown bag."

The skiing, as in most of the Rocky Mountain resorts, is mainly on moderate-to-testing trails through the forests. Above the tree line there are open snowfields which at their best, when the snow is light and feathery, offer matchless off-piste skiing, but are best avoided when the going is sticky.

A couple of miles from Park City is a new development at Deer Valley, which is due to open this season. Our British party was given the opportunity to try the new pistes in advance, uphill transport being provided on "snowcats", the powerful caterpillar tractors used to groom the slopes.

Our host for the day was none other than Stein Erik Olsen, a national champion skier, who in his mid-50s still resembles everyone's idea of a blond Nordic god. He skis like one too, swooping down the slopes with a winged ease that makes his success for all their skill and bravery, look clumsy by comparison.

Three days in Utah and one in Colorado are not enough to provide more than a superficial impression of the attractions of the Rockies. One surprising thing is the relative absence of the sort of interlinking lift systems that are to be found in Europe. Each resort appears jealous of its independence, although it should be added that large areas are owned by the United States Forestry Commission which, under pressure from conservationists, imposes strict controls on development.

Europeans are also likely to be amazed by the immaculate condition of the pistes. Teams of "manicurists" work half the night under floodlights, fearful perhaps that some religious visitor will claim that his broken leg was caused by catching his ski tip on an exposed rock.

The multi-millionaire developer of Deer Valley is to be determined to tolerate neither "goggles" nor lift queues. Their speaker the authentic voice of American tycoonery.

Chess/Harry Golombek

Remember the other battle of Hastings

Like most of the young people of my generation some 50 years ago my knowledge of English history was chiefly based on a study of 1066 and All That. Rather than

in Macaulay, Trevelyan, Oman, Stubbs, or even Martin, one received a true picture of the history of England. The solution of sociological problems by Magna Carta and the practical implications of that early essay in democracy were properly impressed on me by the version that ran "that the Barons should not be tried except by a special jury of other Barons who would understand".

It was in this great book, too, that the importance of Hastings in the history of England was duly emphasised, but Sellar and Yeatman were wrong when they maintained that the only memorable dates in such a history were 55 BC and 1066. There was a third, 1895, and that too, curiously enough, was also at Hastings.

In the book of the great international tournament published in 1896, H. E. Dobell tells how he came up with the idea while walking with fellow-enthusiasts. As a boy I got to know this remarkable man quite well. We shared a joint passion for chess and music, and I would see him one day at a chess event and find myself

sitting the next evening in a bandstand at Queen's Hall.

Through his energetic efforts the world's best chess players were lured to Hastings by what was then regarded as the magnificent prize list of £627 10s. From England there was the world champion, Emanuel Lasker; from Russia, Tichogorin; from Germany the great classical player, Tarrasch; and many other famous figures. Winner of first prize was the American, Pillsbury. Twenty-four years passed and another important international tournament was played at Hastings, the Victory tournament of 1919 that was won by Capablanca. A still stronger tournament was won in 1922 by his great rival Alekhine.

But the real Hastings series of international chess congresses started in 1920 and, with an interval for the Second World War, has continued until the present day. In the 55 congresses since then all the great players of our time have competed, with the one exception of Bobby Fischer.

Sponsors for the event have been, in the first place, the Hastings and St Leonards Corporation, which has continued to play a valuable part

in the organization of great tournaments, followed by such individual sponsors as The Times, Zetters, International Pools, Ladbrokes, James Slater, W. R. Morry, the Friends of Chess, and International Computers.

ICL is sponsoring the fifty-seventh Congress which is due to start on December 28. Thirteen out of the 14 players are fixed: from the Soviet Union there are coming grandmasters Romanishin and Kupreichik, players of considerable imagination and ingenuity, blessed with that original faculty that the Continentals term fantasy.

From the United States there are grandmasters Christiansen and Lein; from Sweden last year's first prize-winner, Ulf Andersson; from The Netherlands international grandmaster, Ree; from Spain last year's winner of the Challengers' international master Rivas.

Then there comes a voice from the past, the slope of Laszlo Szabo, the Hungarian grandmaster who won the first prize at Hastings no less than four times. From England there are international grandmaster Speelman and three international masters, Mascal, Short and Paul Littlewood, the latter being the current British champion.

One more place remains to be filled, but already it is clear that the next Hastings Premier will be the strongest in Elo-rating terms we have ever had, and that the tournament should produce much fine chess. Here, as for the past, it is a beautiful game between two of the contestants; it was played at Mar del Plata in Argentina earlier this year in an event that was an unofficial contest between Europe and the Americas.

White: Ulf Andersson. Black: Larry Christiansen. Queen's Pawn Opening.

1. N-KB3, P-Q3
I like to play 1... P-QB4 here, showing my opponent I have no objection to playing a Sicilian Defence (after 2. P-K4) and also giving Black some hold on the centre.

2. P-Q4, P-K3 5. O-O, O-O
3. P-Q3, B-N2 6. P-K1, P-Q4
4. B-N2, N-KB3
White was threatening to occupy the centre by P-K4, so Black transposes into a sort of King's Indian or Grunfeld Defence — but at the cost of spending two tempi in playing P-Q4. The alternative, which seems preferable, is to get into a sort of P-Defence by 6... Q-N2; 7. P-K4, P-K4.

7. P-K4, P-K3 8. N-K3, N-K3
Better is 9... P-B4. It is an almost invariable rule in such positions that multiple ex-

changes only accentuate weaknesses. 11. N-K3, N-K3
This symmetry in no way helps his cause. E. Sindik, in Sahovski Glasnik, seems to favour the passive 11... B-K3. But in any case at this stage Black is strategically lost.

12. N-KP, N-K3 13. B-K3, N-K3
This was his last chance to gain some play by 13... P-K4.
14. O-N3, R-N1 15. O-N1, Q-N1
16. Q-N3, R-K1 17. P-QB1, B-N4
Allowing the ensuing pretty and decisive sacrifice.

18. R-N1, P-N3 19. R-N2, R-N2
20. Q-N1, R-N2 21. Q-N2, R-N2
22. Q-N1, R-N2 23. R-N1
All this he must have foreseen when making his combination on move 18. Now he threatens: 24. Q-Q8 ch, QxQ; 25. R-Q8 ch, B-B1; 26. B-B5.

23... P-K4
Or 23... B-B1; 24. Q-B6, R-N1; 25. B-Q4, forcing mate.
24. Q-Q7, Q-K3 26. Q-N2, P-Q2
25. R-Q8 ch, R-N2 27. R-Q7.
Threatening to win the Rook by 28. R-Q8 ch, followed by B-Q4 ch.

27... P-K4
If 27... R-KP; 28. K-B1, R-B7; 29. B-Q4.
28. P-Q4, R-N1 29. R-N2, P-K3
30. P-N3, B-N1 31. K-B3, R-N3
31. P-N3, B-N1
He cannot prevent the stately march of the White King to K-N5 via K-R4.

Televue/Elkan Allan

Getting the bird

You may be aware that, sooner or later, English speaking television programmes beamed directly from satellites will be available for those with suitable aerials. What you may not know is that this will be happening much sooner than later — within two months, in fact.

A company called Satellite Television, backed by two merchant banks and headed by a former Thames producer, Brian Haynes, has leased a channel in a dying Orbital Test Satellite from British Telecom. The French use the only other channel for transmissions to Tunisia. The British outfit has already sent out tapes, including a wildlife documentary made by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds — a jockey choice, when you remember that "birds" is slang for satellites. It was received as far apart as Helsinki and Montreux where, by no coincidence, industry gatherings were being held at the time.

By late next January, sporadic tests will have given way to a regular nightly transmission of an hour-and-a-half, soon building to three hours, and by the end of the first year, six hours on week nights and ten hours at weekends.

Feature films are likely to play a large part in these schedules, but there will also be sport, news, cultural and entertainment programmes, as well as nightly pan-European weather reports and forecasts.

The transmissions will all be in English and come from London — Satellite TV is finalising a deal with one of the facility houses that have sprung up to service independent foreign producers but they will not be seen in Britain at first. No individuals or cable companies are going to spend the £10,000 necessary for a three-metre dish while it is illegal to receive signals before that moment, the British Government is not issuing any licences.

All this will change by the time the present OTS satellite uses up the gases that keep it on course, Haynes expects to have taken a channel in another, more powerful satellite going up next August. By 1986 there will be an even higher-power "bird" going up, to bring several programmes to anyone prepared to spend £200 for a window sill aerial. The BBC is expected to have at least one channel in that. But soon, the sky over Europe will be full of satellites, with a choice of some 40 channels to those living in South-east England. Long before that there will have to be a more positive governmental policy than the present one of ignoring a fact of life they find inconvenient, not to say threatening to the broadcasting status quo.

Perhaps because of their longer hours of darkness and the pattern of their other television and entertainment possibilities, Scandinavians are an immediate market. Finland and Norway have already given Satellite Television the go-ahead, but the European licensing authority, Eutelsat, may insist on a scrambled signal, so that its member-countries can keep control of what their citizens may be permitted to watch.

Running a satellite operation is extremely expensive. American operators pay \$1m a year for satellite space, but Haynes and his backers believe that multinational advertisers will pay premium rates for advertising that covers most of Europe. Already, Schweppes and Unilever have reserved airtime.

Earlier this year, in the living-room of a small house in a Sheffield suburb, I watched Russian programmes beamed to a satellite dish, and caught by a home-made dish. Steve Birrell, a BBC engineer, had cobbled together the only home-made receiver in Britain, and the results were impressive. Now there is a rumour that the Russians are

preparing to enter the commercial field by putting out entertainment programmes themselves — and selling

I cannot believe that, even if they do, their programmes would have the same ratings appeal as their British rivals with American purchases. However, they would be strong on sport, opera and, and their looming presence and ideological overtones may help to concentrate the minds of European governments, including our own, who are dragging their feet over this powerful and inevitable development.

Other prospective satellite companies include one from Luxembourg, who are unlikely to take any more notice of other governments' restrictions in television as they do in radio.

In the absence of any British governmental recognition, Satellite TV is voluntarily adopting IBA rules and regulation advertising breaks of not more than seven minutes in any one hour. This rather touching attempt to prove what good children they are has so far fallen on stony ground.

Approaches from British cable companies to be allowed to carry satellite transmissions have met with what the company's spokesperson calls "a loud raspberry". The Home Office is known to be studying the matter, but has so far contented itself with forecasting what it calls a "modest start" when a British "bird" goes up in the mid-eighties. Translated, this appears to mean using only two of the five channels then available, and restricting the use of the BBC and, possibly, existing ITV companies.

But we are about to be swept along on a new tide of broadcasting, and, much as the established authorities would like to stem it, they would only be playing King Canute. It is in the nature of all authority to want to keep anything that threatens it. Up to now, they have been able to plead a shortage of channels. As Peter Jay described in his MacTaggart Lecture at Edinburgh, the battles that were fought by the great seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth-century heroes of free speech and free publication will have to be fought again, when there is a compelling need for continued monolithic broadcasting franchises.

He was wrong in one particular: "This lecture is explicitly and deliberately futuristic. It is about the day after tomorrow." Although he was speaking only three months ago, he is already out of date.

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هكذا من الخيال

Drink/Pamela Vandyke Price Best books and bottles

Books for wine lovers ought to be of fairly recent vintage. Otherwise, either the recipient will already have the book, or would not give it shelf room, so strong are likes and dislikes. Here are some new volumes, each accompanied by a recommended bottle with which the donor can be consoled if unable to buy two copies, one to keep.

German Wines by S. F. Hallgarten (Penguin, £7.50) is a completely updated edition of the imposing work first published in 1976. Somehow the author has even managed to include the statistics of the 1980 vintage and new EEC regulations — remarkable acceleration of publishing process! Equally new is the three-litre pack, somewhat misleadingly termed a "cask", introduced by Moussec, from which wine is literally "on tap" and in which it is guaranteed to remain good for four months.

At its introduction, the French red and white were found pleasant, but the Liebfraumilch (a wine I seldom choose to recommend) attracted plaudits all round: the respected firm of Franc Reib of Leinwin, is fresh, light and makes pleasant drinking. The two French packs cost about £6.60, the Liebfraumilch about £7.90. They are widely available, including Waitrose, Budegens, Mainstop, Co-op branches in Lincoln, Mansfield, Leicester and the East Midlands, or shippers R.

& C. Vintners, Carrow, Norwich, will advise on your nearest supplier. All three wines are excellent for parties.

Hugh Johnson's Pocket Wine Book (Mitchell Beazley, £3.95) was first brought out in 1977 and is now revised and enlarged. The capsule format may not suit everyone and, as is obvious, generalizations about wine can be misleading. But it is likely to be far more use in bag or breast pocket than any vintage chart and, if readers disagree with some of the statements, this only bears out the way in which wine can provoke civilized discussion. A huge wine is suggested with this little book — although not for broaching before at least 1990. Corney & Barrow (12, Elmest, Row, ECI), whose range of ports is outstanding, persuaded Croft to bottle a small quantity from their own estate, Roeda ("the diamond of the Douro") to mark the Croft tercentenary of 1978 and the Corney & Barrow bicentenary of 1980. This engaging giant of a wine is fast asleep now, but will

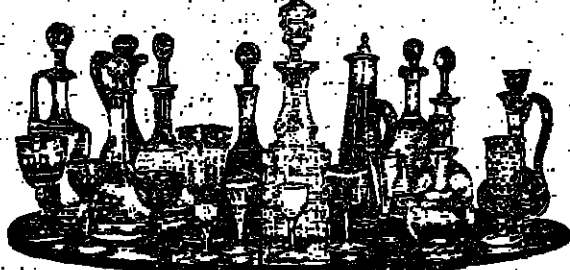
wake to glory and is a treasure to put away for any great anniversary in the 1990s. (Roeda 1978, bottled 1980, costs £7.47.)

Choosing Your Wine, by John Paterson (£3.50, Hamlyn) is pleasantly produced, colour plates, looking more expensive than it is. It agrees with certain statements, especially the advice to abjure any wine with cream cheese or Camembert, or to serve "virtually any kind of red wine" with English cheeses — many of them kill anything elegant and refined. But this kind of common sense shows one might be a good beginner's manual. The bottle to go with it is one of the most delightful pink wines — the Rosé de Barsac (12, Elmest, Row, ECI), whose range of ports is outstanding, persuaded Croft to bottle a small quantity from their own estate, Roeda ("the diamond of the Douro") to mark the Croft tercentenary of 1978 and the Corney & Barrow bicentenary of 1980. This engaging giant of a wine is fast asleep now, but will

Court, Water Street, Bakerswell, Derbyshire).

At the lowest end of the price scale, there is a British wine, called Carrow Prior, for a mere £1.35. Medium full, slightly sweet, it is made from imported concentrated grape juice and provides a non-frying, clean drink that would be an excellent occasional tipple for many, or provide the base for a white wine cop. Named for a former monastery on the site where R & C Vintners now make it, Carrow Prior is widely distributed, but definitely available from Asda and Gough branches.

My own paperback, *Understanding Wines* (Scribner, £1.75) is a basic book, but the member of the wine trade to whom it is dedicated has carefully checked all the information. Because it is so small, it would like to treat myself to a big feast, the 1973 Chateau Palmer, a smiling, elegant aristocrat, of a lightweight vintage. It is the type of wine loved by my own great teacher, the late Alan Sichel, whose firm (now directed by his son) owns part of the estate. For an introduction to red Bordeaux, this would be a wine to please and make a lasting impression. (£3.71 from Berry Bros, 3 St James's Street, SW1. They also have the 1971 Palmer for £12.65 — a wine with more intensity and assertiveness. Do open and, if possible, decant this one some hours ahead of time and the 1973 at least an hour ahead.)



The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole Take a lucky dip with tradition

Concealing coins or trinkets in Christmas puddings is a tradition that goes back a long, long way. But few people probably realize just how far. Nowadays in Britain, as in many other countries, the coins or trinkets, in some places an almond or a bean, are usually seen as lucky and have no more than this light-hearted significance.

In Samuel Pepys's day it was the twelfth cake, eaten on the last night of the Christmas festivities, which held the tokens, then called marks. As he records on January 6, 1666: "My wife to fetch away my things from Woolwich, and I back to cards to choose King and Queen, and a good cake there was, but no marks found; but I privately found the close, the mark of the knave, and privately put it into Captain Cooke's piece, which made some mirth, because of his lady, being known by his buying of clove and mace of the East India prices."

Pretty clearly, this ties in with the King of the Bean ceremonies that go with Scots black bun, and with the French galette des rois which is still sold now with a golden paper crown to grace the head of whoever finds the bean concealed in the pastry.

All these traditions are known to be pagan in origin, to relate to the Lords of Misrule, fruits when the king for the day thus chosen could turn his world upside down for the fun of it. It would not be surprising if such frolics had a darker side. They have and it is Celtic.

According to Shirley Toul-

son, whose book *The Winter Solstice* has just been published, we inherited the idea of casting lots with food from the Romans, but "like the charred cake of the Celts this method of picking out one individual was once the way the sacrificial victim was selected. Like the new sun, the one who drew the lot would rule for a period of 12 months and, like the sun, he had to die the following winter."

It is no small wonder then that when human sacrifice to the sun god was abandoned the continuing business of tokens in food should be seen as lucky. If you still fancy planting "suspenses" in the Christmas pudding, carry on but I think I shall leave them out this year.

Christmas pudding
Serves 10 to 12
170g (6 oz) currants
170g (6 oz) seedless raisins
Finely grated peel of one lemon
Finely grated peel of one orange
110g (4 oz) shredded suet
170g (6 oz) fresh white breadcrumbs
50g (2 oz) slivered almonds
1/2 teaspoon dark rum
55g (2 oz) dark brown sugar
2 large eggs
6 tablespoons whisky
5 tablespoons milk

Put the dried fruit in a large mixing bowl and add the grated zests, suet, bread-

crumbs, slivered almonds, nutmeg and brown sugar. In a separate bowl beat together the eggs, whisky and milk. Stir the liquid into the fruit mixture and mix very thoroughly together. If you have time, let the mixture stand in a fairly dry one, hours before turning it into a well buttered pudding basin.

Cut a large circle of greaseproof paper and another of foil. Put the two layers together and fold a deep pleat in the centre to allow the pudding to rise. Butter the greaseproof side and place the papers over the pudding. Fold the foil down the greaseproof while you wrestle with the string. Tie the cover on securely.

To steam the pudding place the basin in a large pot and pour in boiling water until it comes about one-third of the way up the side of the bowl. Bring the water quickly to a boil, clamp on the lid and reduce the heat until the water is bubbling gently. Be careful to keep the water at a simmer and do not allow the pot to boil dry. Top up the water level with boiling water as often as necessary. Steam the pudding for six hours then allow to cool. Remove papers and re-cover with unbuttered greaseproof and foil. Before steaming the pudding a second time for serving, cover it in the same way as for the initial cooking and steam it for at least two hours.

Christmas cake
Makes one large cake
285g (10 oz) plain flour
Scant teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
225g (8 oz) butter, softened
225g (8 oz) soft brown sugar
4 large eggs
1 tablespoon honey
Finely grated peel of 1 lemon
Finely grated peel of 1 orange
225g (8 oz) currants
225g (8 oz) seedless raisins
225g (8 oz) sultanas
85g (3 oz) candied peel, minced, or candied ginger or pineapple, finely chopped
85g (3 oz) glacé cherries, halved
110g (4 oz) slivered almonds, or chopped pecans
120ml (4 fl oz) whisky
For the almond paste
140g (5 oz) icing sugar
140g (5 oz) caster sugar
285g (10 oz) ground almonds
1 teaspoon lemon juice
A few drops of almond essence
1 large egg, beaten
For the glaze
110g (4 oz) apricot jam
For the icing
3 egg whites
680g (1 1/2 lbs) icing sugar
2 teaspoons lemon juice
1 1/2 teaspoons glycerine
Sift together the flour, salt and spices and set them aside. In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until the mixture is very light and fluffy. In another bowl, beat lightly together the eggs, honey and zests. Gradually beat the egg mixture into the fat, adding a little of the flour with the last few additions of egg to stop the mixture from separating. Sift a few tablespoons of the flour over the dried fruit, glaze and candied fruit and nuts and toss them all together. Fold the remaining sifted flour into the creamed mixture, then the fruit and nuts.

Lastly stir in the whisky and mix very thoroughly to distribute all the ingredients evenly throughout the mixture.

Line a 20cm (8in) round cake tin which is at least 7.5cm (3in) deep with well-buttered greaseproof paper or baking parchment. Turn the cake mixture into the tin and make a shallow depression in the centre of the cake so that when the mixture rises in the oven the top will be roughly level.

Bake the cake in the centre of a preheated cool oven (150°C/300°F, gas mark 2) for 1 1/2 hours, then lower the heat to 140°C/275°F, gas mark 1, and continue baking for about another 2 1/2 hours. The cake is cooked when a warmed skewer plunged into the centre comes out clean. Check the cake regularly while it is baking, and if it appears to be browning too quickly, let alone burning, cover it very loosely with foil for the remainder of its cooking time.

Cool the cake in its tin for 24 hours to let it settle, then strip off the papers. You may "fudge" the cake with another two or three tablespoons of whisky before storing it in airtight container to mature.

To decorate the cake traditionally with almond paste and royal icing, apply the marzipan about 10 days before Christmas.

To make the almond paste, sift the icing sugar into a bowl and stir in the caster sugar and ground almonds. Add the lemon juice and a few drops of almond essence which takes the place of one or two bitter almonds in old recipes. Mix well then gradually add enough egg to make a stiff paste. Knead the paste lightly on a sugar-dusted surface until it is smooth.

To apply the almond paste, first measure round the outer edge of the cake with a piece of string. Take two-thirds of the almond paste and roll it out on a flat surface dredged with icing sugar to a rectangle half the width of the cake and twice the depth of the cake in width. Trim and cut in two lengthwise. Knead the trimmings into the remaining paste and roll it out to fit the cake top. Use the cake tin as a pattern and cut it out with a sharp knife.

Heap the apricot jam with one or two tablespoons of water and pass it through a sieve. Brush the sides of the cake with apricot glaze. Fit the two pieces of almond paste round the cake and smooth the seams by rolling a jam jar over them. Brush the top with glaze and cover with the remaining almond paste. Roll lightly with a sugar-dusted rolling pin and make sure the joints are neatly sealed. Cover the cake with a clean cloth and leave it in a cool place for about three days to dry the paste a little before icing.

To make the icing, whisk the egg whites to a froth. Stir in the sifted icing sugar a spoonful at a time. When half the icing sugar is incorporated, add the lemon juice. Continue adding more sugar, beating well after every addition, until the mixture holds a peak. Then stir in the glycerine which helps to prevent the icing from becoming too hard.

To ice the cake smoothly as a base for piped decorations, coat the top and sides on consecutive days so that a clean edge can harden after the first application. A second, thinner coat of icing may be applied for a smoother finish after 48 hours drying time.

Alternatively, the icing may be used to cover the cake with a spiky fluffed up frosting which is much easier to apply and just as pretty.

The Winter Solstice by Shirley Toulson is published by Forman & Hobhouse (£5.95).

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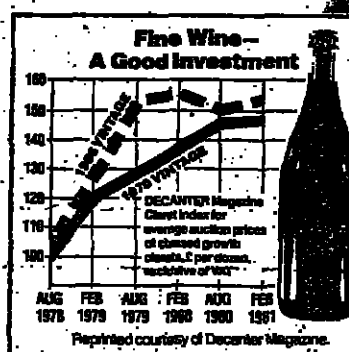
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BERRYS

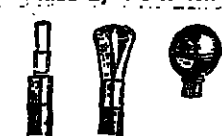


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By Patrick Cunningham

Drinking for Refreshment

In England, we probably drink more wine with food than by itself. We have lost the habit of thinking of wine as just a refreshing drink. Perhaps the best way of bringing back that habit is with a suitably chilled hock.

Light, soft, and fruity it is really refreshing. You may have noticed how so many Germans drink their best wines by themselves rather than with food, and I can only assume that is why they have those lovely big 25 cl. glasses.

The hock I tried this week was a 1980 Liebfraumilch. Liebfraumilch is a generic blend and therefore the most important information is the name of the shipper which is the guarantee of quality. Phillips Newman have shipped this Liebfraumilch for Unwines and I can truly say that it is everything one would expect of the best Liebfraumilch — soft, fruity and faintly sweet.

You'll enjoy drinking it with a meal, but why not try drinking it by itself for refreshment. I think you'll like it.

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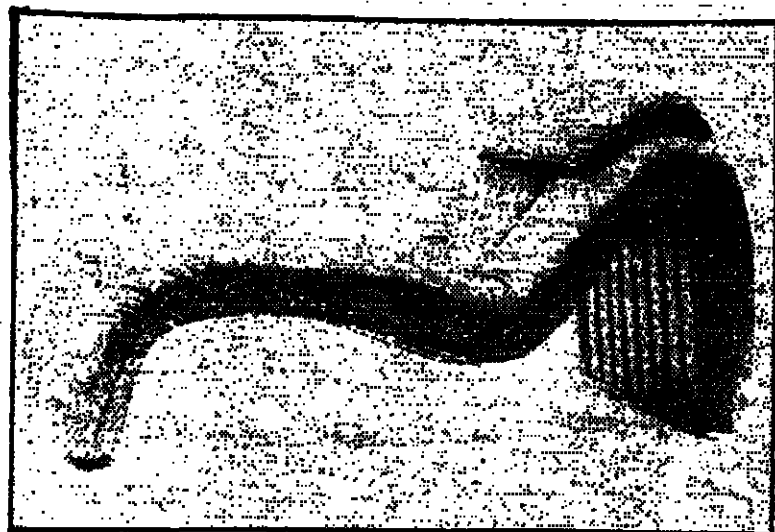
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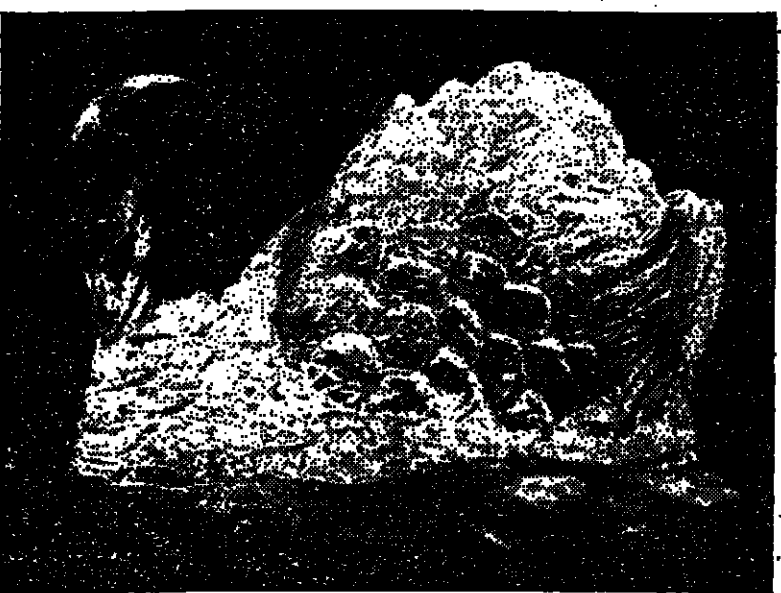
© Banda Azul is one of the Paternina Collection — a range of fine wines from Rioja.

Countdown to Christmas

also appears on pages 13 and 14



The shape of comfort to come — one of the showpiece award winners in this week's International Furniture show in Birmingham. Designed by Mel Mason of furniture makers Welbeck House, and John Greaves who is, wouldn't you guess from the shape, on the design team of Lotus cars, the Lagos Lounger is in soft hide and will cost around £399 when it becomes available next February.



Ice cold at Christmas

If you are planning a party and would like something different as your centrepiece, you might care to consider one of those elaborate ice sculptures that are to be seen dripping inexorably into a hundred embarrassed toasters at all the best banquets. There is no longer any need to spend about £200 to prove that your own ice man cometh, for now there are decorative moulds to fill with water and freeze at home.

There are seven shapes, all between 5½in and 9½in high — a Christmas tree, horn of plenty, artichoke, shrimp boat, fish, dolphin and, the most effective I think, a swan. You can fill them with boiled water (boiling gives greater clarity) and, for special effects, add a little food colouring. In normal room temperature the frozen shape will, I am assured, last well for two hours.

G. Ettinger, 11 Warwick Street, Regent Street, London W1R 6PU, telephone 01-734 4692, will give names of stockists, or will supply the moulds by mail order — £10.45 each, including p & p.

If the idea of party food whets

your appetite, home-made goodies to buy now and freeze until Christmas are among the novel ideas at a charity sale organized by the London Service League next Tuesday. There will also be crafts made by members, as well as a selection of gifts from 17 shops which will have stands at the bazaar.

Among the foods are gingerbread houses in Tudor and Queen Anne style, £10 to £12, tree ornaments made in cookie dough, candy cones and rocking horses at £2 each, and several varieties of quiches, fruit breads, pumpkin or mince pies, soups and Christmas biscuits.

Decorative items include tree ornaments in felt at £1 each, in hand-painted wood at £2.50 and there are door knocker wreaths in taffeta plaid ribbon with apples and berries £6.50 to £12.50.

The Boutique de Noel will be held at Dartmouth House, 37 Charles Street, W1 from 11am to 3pm and there will be a £2 entrance fee. Instead of being donated to an individual charity, proceeds go to community projects organized by the league — among recent ones a drug awareness programme for schools, and help and entertainment for pensioners.

Shoparound

with Beryl Downing

Another Irons in the fire

Having a younger brother on the brink of world fame is not altogether an advantage when you are an original, talented and independent character yourself. So you can imagine Christopher Irons' reaction when his photographer asked him "Wouldn't he be taking your picture if it weren't for all the hoo-ha about Jeremy?"

The answer, I can assure you, is "Yes", for I first met the two brothers a year ago when they floated past my house in Jeremy's graceful Victorian sailing punt. One of his rare moments of relaxation between filming *Brideshead* and *The French Lieutenant's Woman*.

At the time, Christopher was just setting up an interesting glass studio in Cambridge but had not yet produced his first complete collection. It is now ready — and the timing has rarely been so good with selling beautiful glass gifts for Christmas than with hanging on to the coat tails of a publicity giant.

Not that Christopher is a stranger to the ballyhoo that goes with making films, for during a somewhat undemanding phase of his career buying equipment for the copper mines in Zambia he became involved in filming documentaries shown on BBC's *World About Us*.

He graduated to producing his own films, but eventually decided that he must find a career which would allow him more time with his wife and two children.

With a background which included an engineering training, skippering a chartered yacht in the Mediterranean, and managing

a timber company which, with the filming, provided a combination of artistic freedom and technical discipline, the setting up of Cambridge Glassmakers was a logical step once he had been introduced to Dillon Clarke, a talented freelance artist in glass, who has had her work exhibited in many countries.

Together they have gathered round them a group of experienced craftsmen and Christopher has provided an unusually stimulating atmosphere — a small workshop where studio glass artists have the chance to produce experimental, decorative "one-offs", cushioned by the regular production of two functional ranges, one based on traditional English drinking glasses of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and one entirely modern. The quality that the pieces have in common is that they are all hand-made and use techniques that cannot be duplicated by machine.

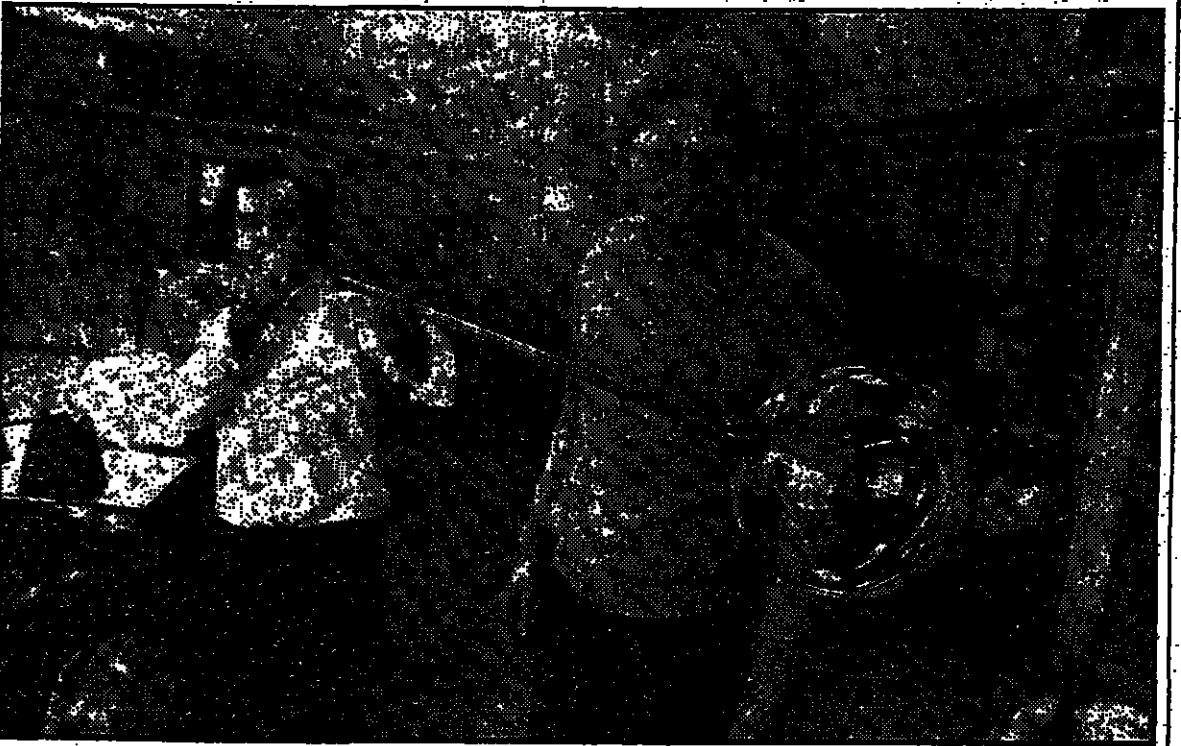
"They are not only hand-made, but better made", says Christopher. "That's what hand-making is all about. If you can't make it better, why bother at all?"

There are speciality glasses, each of which comes with its own recipe. A hearty brew called Mr Pickwick's caudle (oatmeal, spices and ale) is suggested for the caudle cup (£9.33) which today might be used for punch, and the hippocratic glasses (three sizes from £17.48 to £20.42) were originally for a spicy drink to aid the digestion after a heavy meal but would now be used for liqueur or sherry.

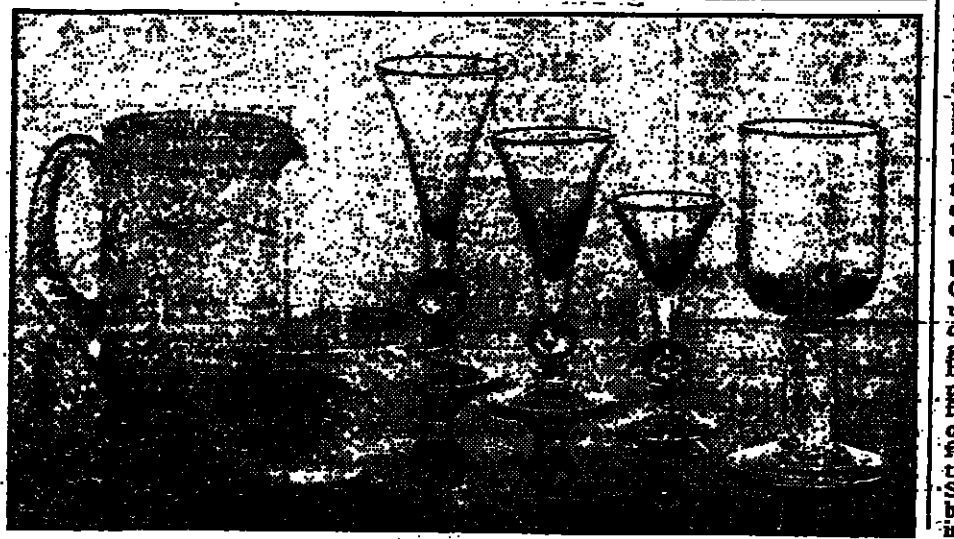
The English tankard (£13.20) comes with a recipe for mulled ale that sounds extremely palatable. You need one pint of ale, four tablespoons brandy, juice of one lemon, half pint water, ½ oz demerara sugar, 2 tablespoons each rum and gin, pinch ground nutmeg, pinch ground cinnamon. The ingredients were mixed together and traditionally mulled by immersing a red hot poker in the liquid. With such a lethal mixture I doubt if there was much of the poker left.

For those who prefer modern glass, there is the Midsummer range. The lines are simple and all the emphasis is on colour and texture — small bowls in frosted pinks, greens and blues swirled with clear stripes in the same pastels, £12.26 each, large salad bowls at £24.70, opalescent jugs in the same cool pastels looking delicious as a frozen daquiri — various sizes from £18.41 to £37.40.

In London you can find examples of both the traditional and modern ranges at Asprey's City branch in Fenchurch Street. David Messum of Windsor has mostly the modern pieces, Francis & Co., 18 St. Michael's Row, Chester, the traditional. Joshua Taylor, Cambridge, James Rossiter, Bath and The Kenilf Gallery, Winchester, Gloucestershire, have both. For other stockists write to Cambridge Glassmakers, Auckland Road, Cambridge CB5 8DW, or telephone 0223 316464. They also welcome visitors to watch the molten glass being worked by hand.



Christopher Irons in his workshop with glassmaker John Payne, and below handmade glass by Cambridge Glassmakers. Left, from the modern Midsummer range, one pint jug with twist handle, £24.77 and 4½ in spiralled bowl, £14.81, both in frosted pink, blue or green. From the King's Hall traditional range, three cordial glasses, £15.82, £12.51 and £11.22 and a twist stemmed goblet, £27.23.



Short sleeved spencer in polyester/Viloft by Twinlock. In cream only in women's or OS sizes, £3. Matching pants, £2.95. Both from Selfridges, London W1; Rackhams, Birmingham; Binns, Liverpool.

Winter warmers in cold combat

It can't be coincidence that as the cost of central heating makes us turn down the thermostat and pile on the woollies, all the chain stores are going in for thermal clothing in a big way. But what exactly does "thermal" mean? It appears to me to be a euphemism, both literally and metaphorically, for hot air.

That is not to suggest that thermal fabrics don't work. Devotees of the underwear declare themselves to be snugly insulated as a loft and when I tried a pair of thermal socks in my gardening wellies recently I did indeed find them warmer than wool. No, the argument is about the various fibres used in thermal fabrics.

Damart, who brought thermal underwear to this country from France in 1965 tried at first to sell through the chain stores and were, they say, "laughed out of every company's office." So they set up their own mail order business and now have three million customers. The secret of their success, says Damart, is their use of chlorofibre, plus the particular way it is knitted.

Not many of their newer competitors would agree. Courtaulds, whose Viloft viscose fibre is used for thermal underwear by big names like Wolsey, Morley, Twinlock and... Chilprufe, announce unequivocally that "it is acknowledged that Viloft fabrics have the most acceptable thermal properties."

The main point about thermal fibres is that they are bulkier for their weight than other yarns. In Viloft this is achieved by sending a jet of harmless gas up the middle of the viscose fibre, giving it a hollow, but irregular inside, bulking it out and allowing it to "wick" — draw moisture through the fabric so that it can evaporate instead of remaining clammy on the skin.

Marks and Spencer are not hitching their wagon to any one fibre. They are making some thermal garments from chlorofibre, some in poly/Viloft, some in polyester, taking as their guideline the principle that whatever the fibre, the product must simply be "either lighter for a given end use" than the garment's conventional counterpart.

But not all technical experts are happy about the thermal boom. One told me that he was very uneasy about the "loose and cavalier way the word thermal gets bandied around." There is, he said, no scientific evidence that particular "thermal" fibres perform better than others and as the only place with proper facilities for determining thermal conductivity of fibres is Manchester's Shirley Institute, their tests would be expensive and others would be imprecise.

So, if there are no definitions and no standards, how can we make sure that manufacturers don't stick a thermal label on any old fabric and add an extra couple of p on the price tag? When you are buying thermal items, the property to look for is bulk without weight. The fabric should feel thicker and softer than you would expect from a similar garment in a conventional fibre. My thermal socks, for instance, felt bulkier than ordinary wool socks (Marks and Spencer men's thermal socks, £1.60).

The principal of thermal underwear is basically that the more space there is between you and your outer clothes, the warmer you will be. Last year's quilted coats were the ideal thermal insulator — a sandwich of textile with quilted wadding between — so a soft fabric with spaces between the weave to trap the air is the one to look for.

In that case, why not just wool? The answer is that wool is indeed the perfect thermal fibre, but if you weave it loosely it shrinks and felts beyond recognition, and won't stand up to regular machine washing. Thermal underwear made from man-made fibres can be washed on a hand hot medium machine programme. Recent tests by *Which?* suggested that poly-ester and poly/Viloft fabrics washed more satisfactorily than chlorofibre and polypropylene.

The variety of thermal items has increased considerably since last year. The chain stores all offer pretty, lacey vests for women as well as sturdy underwear for men and children. There are also blankets, socks, and gloves.

But some thermal specialists are now offering a selection of skirts, tops and trousers and that is when you have to ask yourself whether they are just cashing in on a trend. If the principle of self-insulation is to wear one snugly fitting thermal layer with another layer of ordinary clothing on top to help trap the air and absorb excess moisture, it is difficult to see the advantages of a dressy skirt, simply labelled "thermal".

It is worth comparing prices. Similarly styled ladies' thermal vests cost £2.50 at Marks and Spencer, £2.50 at British Home Stores, £2.49 at Woolworths, £3.85 from Damart. Underblankets are £6.95 single from Boots, £6.95 from Marks and Spencer, £14.25 from Damart.

So, as a brief buying guide, if you want to try the effect of thermal fabrics, don't be confused by the variety of fibres — choose the style and texture that appeals to you most and remember that paying more money doesn't necessarily buy more warmth.

Felicity McCready
has two small children, a home
-and a regular order for
Woman and Home.
She has an eye for good value...



like this festive December issue!

TAILOR-MADE GIFTS
A Christmas workshop of clever gifts, easy to make and a pleasure to give — and to receive!

CHRISTMAS COOKERY
Turkey with a tasty difference... home made sweets and biscuits (marvellous little gifts)...

a soft-iced Christmas roses cake... and masses of bright party ideas.
WIN GROCERIES FOR A YEAR
A grand free-entry competition based on Mary Meredith's corned beef recipes — first prize £50 of groceries every week for a year (or £2,600 cash).

FAMILY KNOTS
Sweaters that bridge the generation gap beautifully.

FASCINATING PEOPLE
Patrick Litchfield tells the behind-the-scenes story of the royal wedding photographs... and TV presenter Judith Henna tells how she manages a family and a career.

FABULOUS SPECIAL OFFERS
Superb cashmere and wool coat + 666 pieces of cookery paperware + Seasonal wines and sherrys + Living flower-pots cards delivered to your friends (Wine offer available in U.K. mainland only).



All in the big-value December
Woman and Home

It seems only yesterday that, looking for Christmas presents for friends, we used to complain that "You get nothing for £1 these days". Then it became £2, £5 and now £10, or to be pedantically correct, £9.95 — for that seems to be around the current average for books for garden lovers.

After a lull for a year or so there has been quite a spate of horticultural books, several of a general nature but also happily a number on one genus or group of plants.

Coming with a basic book we have *The Garden Planner* (Fontana £6.95, Collins £9.95 hardback). The consultant editor was Ashley Stephenson, and 19 contributors, of whom I was one, have covered the subject from a new angle.

They ask first: "What kind of a garden do you have? what can be done to improve the soil, drainage, or shelter?" Then "What kind of garden do you want?" The answers, with a wealth of illustrations, both in colour and monochrome, set out in detail different types of garden or garden features and how to achieve them.

Another symposium, *The Wisley Book of Gardening* edited by Robert Pearson (Collingridge £15) contains

contributions from 29 authors who cover virtually every aspect of gardening. The illustrations, particularly the line drawings by Charles Stitt, are both helpful and attractive.

Anthony Huxley has filled a gap with *The Penguin Encyclopedia of Gardening* (Allen Lane £9.95). It is neither plant encyclopedia nor how-to-do-it book, but an encyclopedia of technical terms from "abscission" to "zygomorphy" taking in on the way descriptions of tools, chemicals and in the quarter of a million words a vast amount of information that a gardener may need.

It should stand alongside the best of the general encyclopedic works on every gardener's bookshelf. There are 16 pages of colour pictures of gardens — beautiful, but mostly not providing much inspiration for those of us with a smaller acreage than Blenheim Palace or Stourhead.

It is a poor year if no book appears about roses, and always a good year when David Hessayon produces one of his "expert" books. This year he has given us *The Rose Expert* (PBI Publications £1.95). It is, of course, excellent value with colour on

every page, portraits of hum-dre roses, and chapters on rose cultivation, diseases, pests and other matters the rose enthusiast should know about. It is the best value of this autumn's book crop.

Most of us like a "rag" to riches" type of story, and those who have enjoyed many television programmes from Arthur Billitt's garden will also enjoy his *The Story of Clark's Farm* (Ward Lock £6.95). In it he tells how with unassuming toil almost single handed he created a garden from a derelict patch, making it into the large highly productive, immaculately kept one that it is today.

I have never been hooked on bonsai or dwarfed trees; to me they are deliberately deformed. But millions of people throughout the world are fascinated by them and will welcome *The Art of Bonsai* by Peter Adams (Ward Lock £7.95).

Growing a bonsai tree is not just a matter of keeping it hovering between life and death — although some specimens have been so hanging by a thread in their shallow containers for 100 years or more. This is the best book on the subject I have seen.

Again, cacti — and other

succulents are not my favourite group of plants — but they give great pleasure to millions of people. Compared with, say, orchids, they are not very demanding and in their infinite variety quite fascinating. So the very reasonably priced *Pocket Encyclopedia of Cacti in Colour* by Edgar and Alan Lamb (Blandford £3.95) must be obvious tempt even the merest beginner in cactus culture. It really is splendid value, with 326 beautiful colour pictures of cacti and other succulents. The quality of the colour plates even by today's high standards is remarkable.

The geranium, or to be botanically correct the genus *Pelargonium*, has staged a remarkable come-back. The zonal varieties have always been popular for bedding and now that millions of gardeners have a heated greenhouse the regal and other types that are best grown under glass are in demand.

For the enthusiast, *Geraniums for Home and Garden* by Alan Sheppard (David & Charles £8.95) is also well illustrated, filled with highly competent technical advice, compulsory reading and an invaluable reference book.

Still for the specialist we have *The Bulb Book* by Martyn Rix and Roger Phillips (Pan £6.95 paperback; Ward Lock £10.95 hardback). This is a beautiful photographic guide to more than 800 bulbs, corms, tubers and rhizomes. Most of the plants are shown in flower and leaf and most unusually with their root system intact a presentation I have not previously seen in a modern book. Even the lovely photographs of many of our treasured garden plants growing in the wild.

Finally we have *Ornamental Shrubs* by C. E. Lucas Phillips and Peter Barber (Cassell £14.95). It is a large book and describes thousands of shrubs we may grow in Britain today. It contains 32 pages of colour and a fair complement of monochrome illustrations, but even if it might have been thought that more black and white illustrations, or line drawings, would have made the book much more valuable.

But the text alone makes this a book that anyone interested in ornamental shrubs must acquire — as a present or as a last resort by purchase.

[illegible]

\$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

هكذا من الأصل

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Building societies

Bristol & West offers 2% bonus for savers

Building society investors cannot afford to miss the latest offer from Bristol & West — a seven-day notice account with no withdrawal penalties, paying a full 2 per cent over the recommended rate.

Bristol & West has put the building society world in turmoil with news of its Bristol Bond. Not even the smallest of small societies pays much more than 1 per cent over the recommended rate for ordinary account money.

At 1.75 per cent net of basic rate tax the Bristol Bond, which is effectively an ordinary account, outstrips all its competitors by a large margin. The equivalent before-tax rate for a basic-rate taxpayer is 16.79 per cent.

Unlike the small societies where investments and withdrawals are made by post, the Bristol & West has over 150 branches removing this major difficulty.

The differential of 2 per cent over the recommended ordinary share rate is guaranteed until October 31, 1984, though the ordinary share rate will, of course, fluctuate. It makes little sense to go on investing with the Halifax, Abbey National and the rest if you can walk down the road to the Bristol & West and obtain 2 per cent more with only the marginal inconvenience of having to give seven-days notice of withdrawal.

Perhaps the best strategy is to keep £200 or so with your regular building society for instant cash and transfer the balance to a Bristol Bond. Minimum investment is £200 with a maximum of £20,000 per person.

The offer is limited to £100m but closing anyway in Gloucester which launched a similar scheme at the end of April, took an estimated £100m in the space of six to eight weeks, and had to turn money away.

Not content with hammering the competition on investment rates, Bristol & West has also cut 0.5 per cent on the mortgage rate for new first-time buyers. Some £50m of mortgage money has been set aside for first time buyers mortgage scheme where the borrower pays a lower interest rate but receives no tax relief. Rates here are cut to 10.2 per cent from 10.5 per cent with monthly repayments on a £15,000 loan over 25 years at £143.84.

The big five societies have been taken back by this latest move by Bristol & West and are concerned that it may prosper at the expense, not of outside competitors, like the banks and national savings, but to the detriment of other building societies.

The Bristol & West must be prepared to pay only 5 per cent on this one, commented Albert Thayer, chief general manager of the Halifax.

It seems unlikely that the larger societies can afford to follow suit and both the Halifax and Abbey National confirmed that it would be difficult.

"This is the wrong kind of strategy," commented a spokesman for Abbey National. Abbey makes no bones about the fact that it would be able to borrow at 14.5 per cent instead of the basic 15 per cent.

The reduction of 0.5 per cent is certainly not to be sneezed at — repayments on a £15,000 25-year loan at 14.5 per cent are £187.61 a month compared with £193.38 at the basic 15 per cent rate.

This reduction will also apply to first time buyers borrowing under the option mortgage scheme where the borrower pays a lower interest rate but receives no tax relief. Rates here are cut to 10.2 per cent from 10.5 per cent with monthly repayments on a £15,000 loan over 25 years at £143.84.

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Take care with gold

Throughout this week the gold market has been going through one of its periodic bouts of uncertainty. On Tuesday the price dropped by \$14.5 an ounce to hit a three-month low point of \$415. Since then it has edged down in price, though less dramatically, to finish the week at \$412.

As one bullion dealer put it: "The current mood is one of pessimism with the market struggling to find its level." There are several reasons for gold's poor showing so far in 1981.

First and foremost, the price of the yellow metal conforms very precisely to the basic economic influences of supply and demand. In recent months both South Africa and the Soviet Union, the world's largest producers of gold, have been selling large quantities in various parts of the world.

In addition to over-supply, the price of gold is also being kept down by the high interest rates. United States rates may have eased slightly but with President Reagan's gloomy acknowledgment that the American economy is still in bad shape, few people are looking for an early rise in the rate of interest.

That, however, is not the only reason for gold's poor showing. Indeed, the heavy days of January 1980 when gold was trading at \$850 an ounce, were also the days when the price of gold was being kept down by the high interest rates.

Conversely, it has to be remembered that gold is a commodity of notorious volatility. Traditionally it has been a barometer of fear and some observers predict that if there were an invasion of Poland or renewed tension in the Middle East, the price would zoom upwards.

That may be so although interest in the assassination of President Sadat hardly moved the market, nor did the earlier attempt on Mr. Reagan's life. So the best advice must be to hold off in anticipation of a further rise.

The principal coins such as Kruggerands and Sovereigns command a ready market and, in addition, do not attract VAT. There is a premium normally of 3 per cent of the pound gold price on a one ounce bar or four smaller investors they represent a better buy than bullion which does attract VAT unless it is held outside the United Kingdom.

In particular, investors should give a wide berth to gold bars being sold by bullion dealers. Johnson Matthey, under the enticing slogan "A gift to treasure for those you treasure most" Johnson Matthey are using gold advertisements to sell gold bars, ranging from 2.5 grams up to 20 grams.

Unfortunately, the prices being quoted represent very poor value — particularly in the light of the recent price decline.

You can buy a 20 gram gold bar (approximately two-thirds of an ounce) from Johnson Matthey for £204.24, including VAT until November 20. In London on Thursday afternoon 1 was quoted a price of £204.24 for a 20 gram bar at the shopfront premises of the Bullion Company in Hatton Garden.

Admittedly Johnson Matthey would have to have fixed their published prices some time ago but the gold price has fallen so far that price changes that have subsequently taken place, this is definitely an offer investors can refuse.

Lorna Bourke

WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FOR TWO POUNDS AN HOUR?



Insurance

True worth of a wife

Less than £2 an hour is the price put on the work done by housewives, yet working a 14-hour day, seven days a week, they still manage to top up earnings to an equivalent to the salary of an army sergeant major, bishop or fire chief.

Over £204 a week is the value of a housewife's work as a child-minder, seamstress, shopper, laundress, head cook and bottle washer, according to a Gallup survey conducted for the Legal and General insurance company.

The object of the exercise is to impress on husbands the value of going to the insurance market and many life offices admit that the rates are so low they make little or no profit on this type of business. At £50 to £80 a year, not much more than the price of a packet of cigarettes a year, virtually everyone can afford it.

For very little extra you can buy similar cover with the option to convert to a savings policy at a later date, without having to give any evidence of health.

Insurers quoting the most competitive rates for 15-year term cover for a 30-year-old include the two main non-commission paying mutual companies, Equitable Life and London Life, Black Horse Life (useful for Lloyds Bank customers) and Crusader Insurance.

The same cover at age 45 becomes more expensive — £50,000 of 15-year term assurance will cost between £260 and £280 a year before tax relief, so it pays to buy this type of insurance when you are young.

Most competitive quotes in this age group are from Equitable Life, Zurich Life, Commercial Union and Guardian Royal Exchange. Equitable is actually the cheapest charging £256 a year for £50,000 of cover — but it is tough on medical requirements. A 45-year-old who is not as fit as he or she ought to be might prefer to try one of the other insurers.

A married couple with young children should aim for a minimum cover of £50,000 on each of their lives. If a wife is not sure whether her husband is insured she can always insure herself. What would a husband do if his wife were to die and he suddenly found himself looking after the children on his own?

Similarly, divorced couples still need to consider cover for their ex-spouse. How would a wife dependent on maintenance payments cope if her ex-husband dies? The second wife would be entitled to any pension or death in service benefits. What would a husband do if his wife were to die and he suddenly found himself looking after the children on his own?

So be of good cheer. Marriage is a gamble, but in the end, it is a gamble worth making. And yesterday we felt just fine.

But it is hard to see the market falling far. Big brokers Phillips & Drew tell me that so far their sample companies reporting for the third quarter of this year have turned in profits 70 per cent up on the same months a year ago, though ICI has weighed in with a 100 per cent increase. It will end up smaller as the returns come in.

It is also generally agreed that the economy is once again growing, as the industrial production figures for the third quarter showed. The Exco International money broker offering for sale attracted £1,200m, which shows the sort of money there is around.

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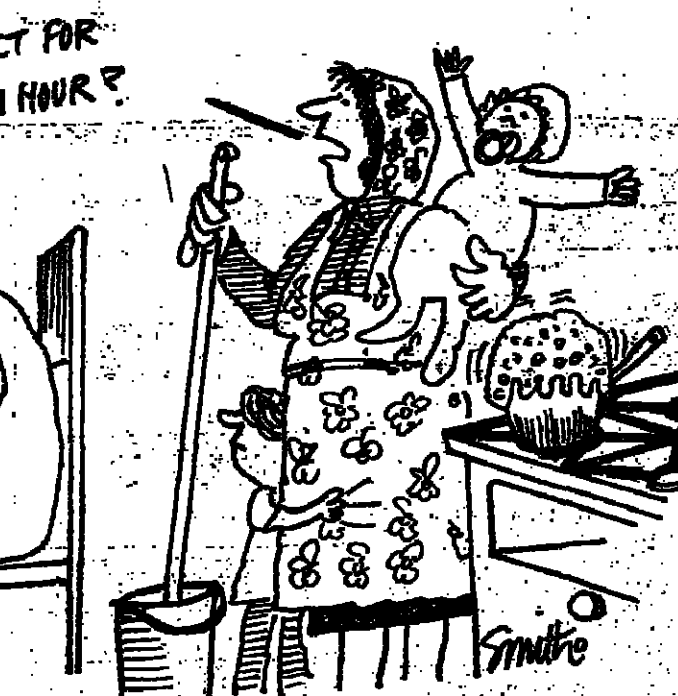
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In brief New terms for NS certificates

Holders of the sixteenth issue National Savings certificates now have the option to extend their holding for a further — sixth — year; return is equivalent to 10.3 per cent.

The sixteenth issue was highly popular for the brief period it was on sale between December 1976 and March 1977 — largely because the Government had been over generous in the terms offered with the result that it rapidly moved out of line with rates in general. Last year, holders were offered extension terms for the year equivalent to a return of 10.29 per cent.

There is still £750m invested in this issue and the extension terms are only marginally worse than the average return on the new twenty-third issue which is paying 10.5 per cent over the five-year term.

Young savers Catch 'em young... the Woolwich 'Young Account' which operates in the same way as an ordinary share account, pays the same interest of 9.75 per cent and has the same withdrawal facilities.

Children who invest will receive a special passbook, wallet and free badges. The new account is being launched with a competition for those under 15 who open an account with the Woolwich. The competition is designed to promote road safety and the winner will receive a Puch Cavalier 10-speed racing bicycle or a 3-speed multipurpose bicycle. Contestants have to place 10 features of a standard bicycle in order of importance for road safety and complete a sentence beginning: 'The Woolwich is the one to be with because...'

Pension rights The Life Offices Association has added its thoughts to the continuing debate on the pension rights of job changers.

Better pension provision for early leavers is supported by the LOA as a 'desirable objective', but like many others, the association points to the difficulty of either getting extra money to fund these improved benefits, or the near impossibility of cutting benefits to those who stay with an employer to provide a more equitable allocation of resources.

However, the association supports the basic recommendations of the Occupational Pensions Board, that the benefits allocated to early leavers should be updated by a minimum of 5 per cent a year after leaving an employer. At the moment, many who change jobs get no benefit increases in the time between leaving an employer and retirement age.

Electricity rebate Electricity boards have been recommended to make a rebate to all domestic and other quarterly billed consumers before the end of this financial year. The rebates will be 6 per cent on average for the quarter January 1, 1982 to March 31, 1982.

This follows concern on the part of the Electricity Consumers' Council over fuel cost estimates. Fuel prices are going up about 7 1/2 per cent from the end of October to November, which, for the second year running, is less than was feared. This extra money collected from consumers is to be repaid.

Contrary to popular belief there are no income limits

Contrary to popular belief, there are no income limits on eligibility for rebate, so if you think that you might qualify it is worth applying.

Calculations for working

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN Bank 15%
Barclays 15%
BCCI 15%
Consolidated Credits 15%
C. Hoare & Co 15%
Lloyds Bank 15%
Midland Bank 15%
Nat Westminster 15%
TSB 15%
Williams & Glyn's 15%

* 2 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 12%
10,000-100,000 11%
100,000-1,000,000 10%

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 9EB Telephone 01-421 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980-81

High Low Company Price Chgs Divs Yld P/E Yld

114 100 ABI Hldgs 10% CULS 112 - 10.0 8.9 - -

76 39 Airsprung Group 68 - 4.7 6.9 10.8 14.9

52 21 Armistead & Rhodes 44 - 4.3 8.8 3.7 8.3

200 924 Barlow Hill 193 - 9.7 5.0 9.4 11.4

104 88 Debon Services 97 - 5.5 5.7 4.8 9.1

105 88 Frank H. Jones 121 - 6.4 5.3 10.9 25.3

110 39 Frederick Parker 60 - 1.7 2.8 26.1 -

110 47 George Blair 47 - 1 - - -

102 93 IPC 99 - 7.3 7.4 7.1 10.8

113 39 Jackson Group 98 - 7.0 7.1 3.1 7.0

130 103 James Burroughs 110 - 8.7 7.9 8.0 10.1

334 24 Robert Jenkins 292 - 31.3 10.7 4.1 10.3

59 50 Serutons "A" 56 - 5.3 9.5 8.6 8.0

224 181 Torday Limited 181 - 15.1 8.3 7.8 12.0

23 8 Twinkl Ord 144 - - - -

90 66 Twinkl 157 ULS 71d - 15.0 21.1 -

56 33 Unilock Holdings 34 - 3.0 8.8 6.1 10.3

103 81 Walter Alexander 84 - 6.4 7.6 5.5 9.8

263 181 W. S. Yeates 218 - 13.1 6.0 4.1 8.4

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Tennis

Shadow of black list spoils Connors' romp at Wembley

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Jimmy Connors advanced to the semi-final round of the singles in the Benson & Hedges tournament at Wembley yesterday and then expounded, with quizzical resignation, on how painful it was to be poised on the horns of a dilemma.

Grand prize regulations and his own scheduling preferences have combined to commit Connors, a fortnight hence, to a two-day exhibition series in Durban followed by a grand prize tournament in Johannesburg. He is now examining the possibility that he might be "blacklisted" for visiting South Africa and that this could inhibit his freedom to play where he chooses.

"I'm a sportsman, not a politician," Connors said yesterday. "I want to go down there. I should be able to make up my own mind. It's a shame that politics hamper the game so much in so many ways. Politics seem to screw up everything."

On the other hand, Connors is having fun with his first Wembley romp since he won the event in 1976. A variety of commitments in the Far East kept him away from London during the intervening years. I enjoy it over here at this time of year. The weather seems to be better than it is in Wimbledon. Cold but clear. And there's a little less pressure at Wembley than there is at Wimbledon.

This warmly glib bundle of energy is having a long lunch considering the stress he puts on his muscles every time he goes to work. From 1974 to 1978 Connors contested four consecutive Wimbledon titles and five in the United States championships. His form against Bjorn Borg at Wimbledon in July convinced him that he may

still have it in him, like Jack Nicklaus, to win another "big one" when the golden years are beginning to slip back in the memory.

Yesterday, Connors had a 6-4, 6-0 win over the grave, heavily-muscled Shlomo Glickstein, of Israel. In Stockholm last week Connors was set and 2-4 down to Glickstein and very much in the ropes. But that was the first time they had met and Connors learns fast.

The way Alexander Mayer has been playing recently, it was no surprise that he should beat Roscoe Tanner, 6-4, 5-7, 6-1. Tanner found some highlights along when he tossed up the ball to serve. His first volley suffered as a consequence, so did his concentration and concentration. He was even induced to stay back on his own service. Tanner could afford none of that, because Mayer has been temporarily forgotten how to do anything wrong.

After Wimbledon, Mayer had three months off because of a strained right knee. The kind of thing that had Tracy Austin low at the beginning of the year. When he returned, Mayer was not the same. He was eager and frisky—more so than most players are in October. In three tournaments he has reached two finals and has been beaten only by his brother Gene and Ivan Lendl (twice).

A British Davis Cup player, Richard Lewis, leaves today to contest the quarter-finals of the Court Championships at Berlin City, Nigeria. Lewis should have been free to depart sooner. He was out of the country for a month but beat his Nasta and Victor Anaya in straight sets, thus won £2,470.

Lewis is unfamiliar with such conditions as a hot sun and a hot sun. He is unfamiliar with such conditions as a hot sun and a hot sun. He is unfamiliar with such conditions as a hot sun and a hot sun.



Alex Mayer: not putting a foot wrong.

found to be a deceptive opponent with a reading variety of shots that continually forced him to err. Volleys had Lewis under most strain. It was a volleying error, under severe pressure, that sent him back to the net. Mayer was not the same. He was eager and frisky—more so than most players are in October. In three tournaments he has reached two finals and has been beaten only by his brother Gene and Ivan Lendl (twice).

John McEnroe took Brian Gottfried's game apart with a facility that was often breathtaking. The challenges he met with such ease and confidence that he left his opponent with little apparent effort, for that matter so little apparent enjoyment. In today's semi-final McEnroe

and Connors play me who have never beaten them: Mayer and Noah respectively. Perhaps Mayer and Noah should put up to the promoters and buy a few of the tests have proved, it is said, that the combination of over and under pressure makes the flight of the ball much easier to follow. Well, the women once tried futsal. These days anything

Quarter-finals: J. Connors (USA) beat S. Glickstein (Israel) 6-4, 6-0, 6-1. R. Lewis (USA) beat R. Tanner (USA) 6-4, 5-7, 6-1. A. Mayer (USA) beat R. Tanner (USA) 6-4, 5-7, 6-1. J. McEnroe (USA) beat B. Gottfried (USA) 6-4, 5-7, 6-1.

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Football

Greenwood wants Saturday play

By Nicholas Harling

Londoners and Lancastrians dependent on their weekly dose of first division football will have to go without today, the international demands of the tour, home cup matches having taken priority on the players' needed for next week's World Cup games.

The England squad trained yesterday and their manager, Ron Greenwood, said that England's big matches should be played on Saturdays instead of Wednesdays.

"If we respect the programme is going to be cancelled, as we have this time, why not play the international on a Saturday evening?" Greenwood said.

"We ought to play our important games during the season, not on a Saturday evening. We had to play World Cup matches with Switzerland and Hungary at the end of last season, and they are at the beginning of this one."

Domestically, there are alternatives to travelling as far afield as Middlesbrough or West Bromwich Albion for first division football. Any of the three clubs, Blackburn Rovers, Oldham Athletic, or Burnley, could expect to have crowds swelling the grounds.

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Rugby Union

New Zealand scrummaging will be tested by the 'heavy brigade'

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

A week round Australia will be playing Ireland at Lansdowne Road, in their first international of the tour, and then, on Friday, England in that order. But this afternoon the international spotlight is focused on Toulouse, where New Zealand, now making their first tour to Europe in 25 years, will play France in the first leg of a two-match series that will be completed in Paris seven days later.

The All Blacks defeated Romania at the end of their tour, and we may now find out whether their scrummaging, without Gary Knight at tight half, is good enough to stand up to the French scrum.

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Cricket

Enterprising Srikant and patient Gursharan make England toil

From Richard Streeton
Poona, Nov 13

There has not been a clearer result at the Netaji Stadium here for a long time and everything followed a predictable pattern here today. England, after losing the toss, were out to bat in the first innings. The first day's play was a three-day game against an India Under-22 side. The Indian honours went to Gursharan Singh, an 18-year-old trainee at the Indian Air Force School, who scored a century on the first day's play. He capitalised perfectly on a free scoring start the home side made.

England dismissed the two opening batsmen, the run rate slowed drastically. Gursharan's only chance came at 93 when he was out. He had been dropped a low drive to his left hand. Otherwise for four hours he was the epitome of sound, orthodox batsmanship.

England bore up well to their

first full day of overcast in scorching sun and 85 degree temperatures. This is a picturesque ground with a fine view of the old fort and the old temple perched on high here today. England, after losing the toss, were out to bat in the first innings. The first day's play was a three-day game against an India Under-22 side. The Indian honours went to Gursharan Singh, an 18-year-old trainee at the Indian Air Force School, who scored a century on the first day's play. He capitalised perfectly on a free scoring start the home side made.

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out to a newly posted backward square leg as he attempted the stroke again. Gursharan was beaten by Embury's turn as he tried to make room to hit the off-spinner through the covers. England's batting was remarkably efficient for 50 overs in the room. Gursharan bowled the day's last over with the crowd on tenterhooks but Gursharan cut his fifth ball to the boundary to reach his hundred.

Turning to administrative matters, the discussions over England's charter flights have ended with England agreeing to pay £10,500 rather than the £12,800 asked for originally. Gursharan is expected to be charged £3,000. So next week's game at Nagpur will definitely be played and England are spared a 14-hour train journey. It is sounds more like a champagne than a compromise. It seems there was an original miscalculation by Indian Airlines.

England bore up well to their

Badminton

Scots stick to rules and delay choice

By Iain MacKenzie

There has been a further delay to the announcement of the Scottish party for the second round of the Thomas Cup against the Netherlands in Glasgow on December 1 and 2. The names were to have been announced almost a month ago, but because of the poor form shown by many of the leading players early in the season, the selection was held up.

After training last weekend, Allan Campbell, the coach, and the selectors, however, have named six, but there will be no formal release of the names until next Wednesday. Two who are sure to be included are the doubles players Bill Gilliland (Rumford) and Dan Travers (Glasgow) who, at their best, can beat any other pair in the world, including the Indonesians, who have won the Thomas Cup for the past four years.

England bore up well to their

Racing

Easter Eel can help Winter to elusive win

By Michael Seely

Easter Eel can give Fred Winter his first success in what promises to be one of the most exciting and competitive Mackeson Cup ever run. Cheltenham's first major handicap chase of the season has attracted some fast and fluent jumpers. Easter Eel, trained by the exceptional trainer, has been a consistent performer in the last few seasons, winning the last of the season at Ascot, where he was beaten by the National Hunt meeting, where he appeared not to stay three and a quarter miles under conditions. The 10-year-old has been given a thorough preparation for today's race and is expected to be at his best over the 3 miles and a half miles on good going.

Backers have bet fortunes on the ante-post favourite, Fairy King, who has recorded fast times in his two wins this season, at Ascot and on this track. The Northern challenger has risen in the ratings since he was beaten by Fairy King in the last of the season. The top weight, Western Rose, is a brilliant jumper on fast going, but he has been beaten by Fairy King in the last of the season. The 10-year-old has been given a thorough preparation for today's race and is expected to be at his best over the 3 miles and a half miles on good going.

minor handicaps at Kempton Park and Huntingdon by 20 and 25 lengths, respectively. This improving stay-at-home might be a bit of a handicap but he has yet to prove he says this afternoon's distance. Easter Eel seems the safer selection in an open race.

However Mrs Rimmell does with Western Rose this capable trainer would certainly win the Mackeson Cup and the Fred Rimmell Chase with Fairy King. Connaught Ranger, a 10-year-old, has been a consistent performer in the last few seasons, winning the last of the season at Ascot, where he was beaten by the National Hunt meeting, where he appeared not to stay three and a quarter miles under conditions. The 10-year-old has been given a thorough preparation for today's race and is expected to be at his best over the 3 miles and a half miles on good going.



Tsuru on his way to victory at Cheltenham

sword looked every inch a champion in the making. Earlier Smith Eeles had given a forceful exhibition of jockeyship on Master Smudge in the Cheltenham 150th Anniversary Handicap. The 1979 Gold Cup winner's task was made easier when Sugruff fell at the open ditch in front of the stands, bringing down the crowd. The 10-year-old was a consistent performer in the last few seasons, winning the last of the season at Ascot, where he was beaten by the National Hunt meeting, where he appeared not to stay three and a quarter miles under conditions. The 10-year-old has been given a thorough preparation for today's race and is expected to be at his best over the 3 miles and a half miles on good going.

in which he has been allotted 10st 7lb. A promising staying hurdler was seen in Angelo Salvin whom Peter Easterly sent down from York to win the Philip Cornes Novice Handicap, decisively, in the hands of Alan Brown. Angelo Salvin will be even better when the rains come as Phil Bull's five-year-old relishes muddy conditions. Derek Ken, a 10-year-old, was a consistent performer in the last few seasons, winning the last of the season at Ascot, where he was beaten by the National Hunt meeting, where he appeared not to stay three and a quarter miles under conditions. The 10-year-old has been given a thorough preparation for today's race and is expected to be at his best over the 3 miles and a half miles on good going.

Top Australians unable to hide batting deficiencies

From Peter MacFarlane
Perth, Nov 13

The under-rated Pakistan touring side had Australia on the defensive after the first day of the first Test here today. Sent into bat by Javed Miandad on a wicket that was perfect for batting, the Australians showed again the fallibility of their top batsmen.

Not even the inclusion of the captain, Greg Chappell, who had dogged opener, Bruce Laird, could hide the deficiencies of the Australian batsmen who repeatedly made errors against the attack of Imran Khan, Sarfaraz Nawaz and Sikander Bakht.

Miandad's decision to send Australia to bat was a bold move. An admission that his batsmen did not want to face the Australian fast bowlers, Lillee, Thomson and Alderman. Instead, the Australians showed a batsman's attitude after an opening stand of 45 between Laird and Wood, neither of whom took any wickets against Imran and Sarfaraz. But, however, lay the foundation for a big first innings total on a wicket that gave no encouragement in the early stages.

England bore up well to their

West Indians revived by stand of 165

Adelaide, Nov 13—Larry Gomes (55) and David Murray (72) not out, shared a sixth-wicket stand of 165 to rescue the West Indians on the first day of their match against South Australia at the Adelaide Oval today. The touring side were 271 runs at the close, having been 106 for five, before Gomes was out when he was adjudged lbw five minutes before stumps. He batted 275 minutes and hit seven fours.

All the early signs suggested a big West Indian total. Greenidge and Gomes made a flying start, putting on 35 in 48 minutes. The first wicket, but then Greenidge was run out, beaten by Darling's throw from cover.

Richardson and Gomes were the next to go, when Gomes was out, giving Winter the second of his three wickets, when he hit the side was out for 106. The repair work carried out by Gomes and Murray was effective, raising the score to 271 at the close, having been 106 for five, before Gomes was out when he was adjudged lbw five minutes before stumps. He batted 275 minutes and hit seven fours.

England bore up well to their

Record bettered after 38 years

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

Those who patronized the Dublin International show jumping championships on Thursday night, were treated to a world record height achieved in the baroque event. At midnight, 19-year-old Michael Murphy and the black gelding, "The Duke", cleared 7ft 7in, to break the previous record, set in Australia in 1943, by half an inch.

The 13 entries included Robert Smith, with Liquid Diamond and Showaway, and his younger brother Stephen, with a grey gelding, Ireland, and his rider for Brendan Harris in County Kerry. Ireland filled the first three places with two of his riders, and the black gelding, "The Duke", cleared 7ft 7in, to break the previous record, set in Australia in 1943, by half an inch.

England bore up well to their

Equestrianism

Record bettered after 38 years

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England bore up well to their

Cheltenham programme

(Television (BBC 1): 1.5, 1.40, and 2.15 races)

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